



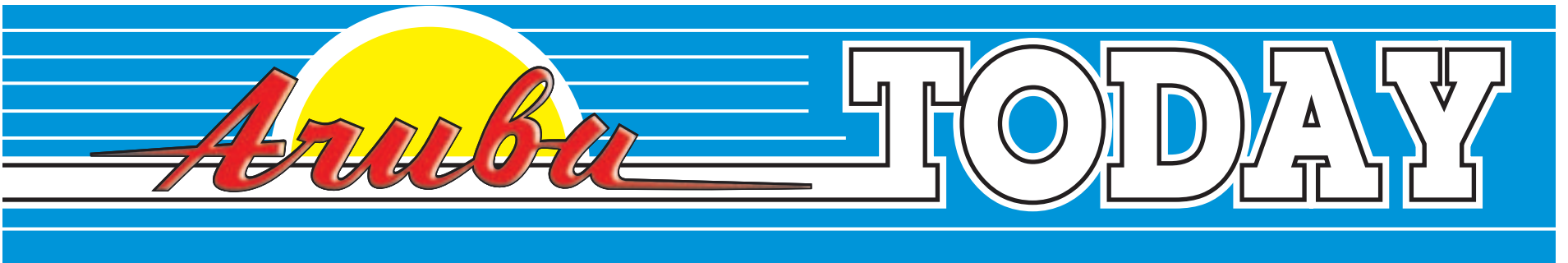
U.S. ECONOMY SEEN BOUNCING BACK FROM LONG WINTER

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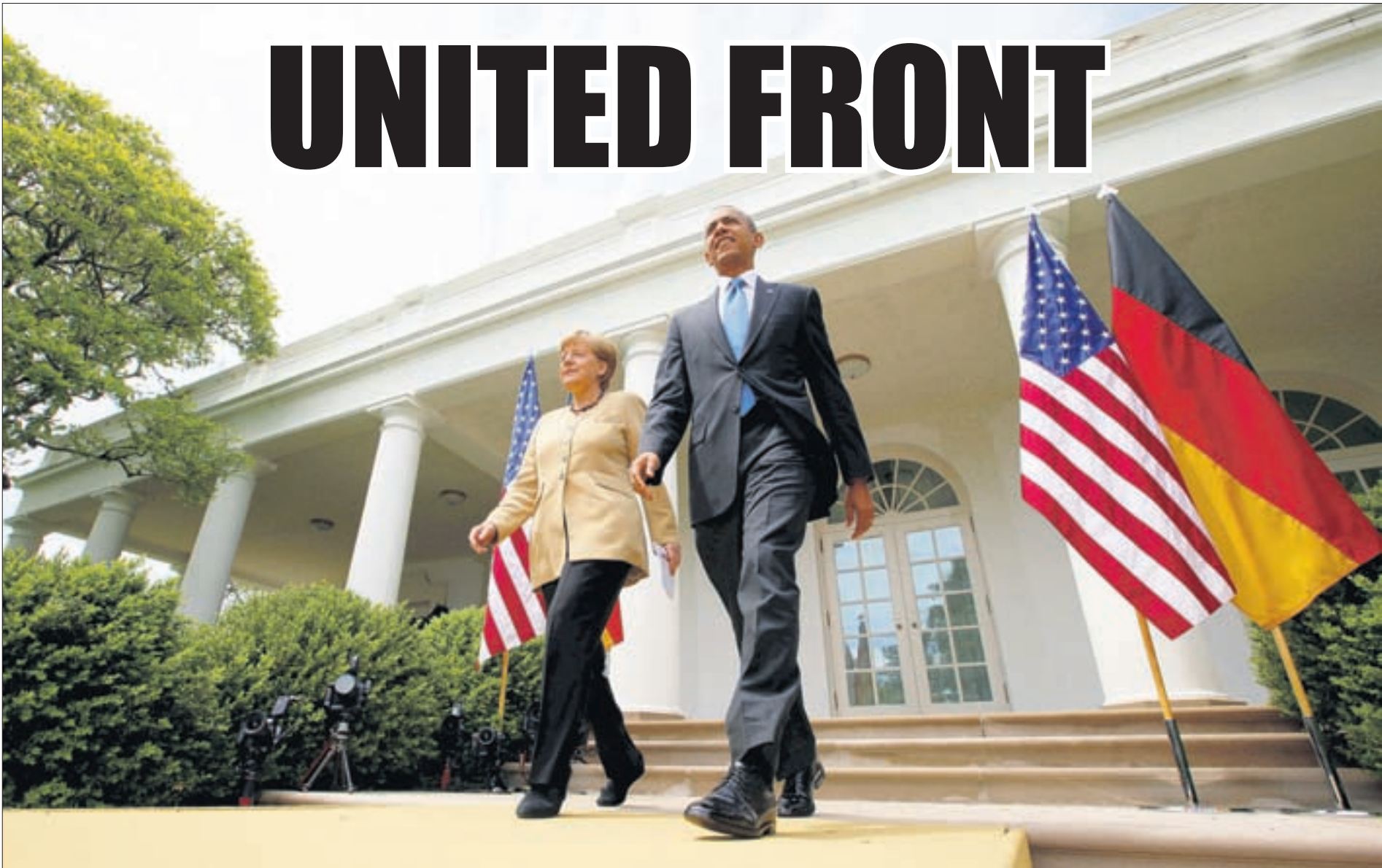


ARUBA TOURISM AUTHORITY HONORS LOYAL VISITORS!

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On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Saturday, May 3, 2014



President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel arrive for their joint news conference in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Friday, May 2, 2014. Obama and Merkel are putting on a display of trans-Atlantic unity against an assertive Russia, even as sanctions imposed by Western allies seem to be doing little to change Russian President Vladimir Putin's reasoning on Ukraine.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel threatened tough sanctions Friday on broad swaths of Russia's economy if Moscow disrupts Ukraine's May 25 presidential elections, putting President Vladimir Putin on notice for harsher penalties even if he stops short of a full invasion. Standing side by side in the White House Rose Gar-

den, Obama and Merkel sought to bat down the notion of any discord between the U.S. and European approaches to dissuading Putin from interfering in Ukraine. Obama said the U.S. and Europe have shown "remarkable unity" in their response so far, though he acknowledged that some European countries are vulnerable to Russian retaliation for sanctions and said those concerns must be taken into ac-

count. "The next step is going to be a broader-based sectoral sanctions regime," Obama declared, referring to entire segments of Russia's economy, such as energy or arms. "If in fact we see the disruptions and the destabilization continuing so severely that it impedes elections on May 25th, we will not have a choice but to move forward with additional, more severe sanctions," the president said. As Merkel arrived at the

White House, Ukraine's interim government launched its first major offensive against a pro-Russian insurgency that has seized government buildings across the eastern part of the country. The insurgents shot down two Ukrainian helicopters Friday, though Ukrainian officials said many insurgents had been killed or wounded. The Kremlin said the Ukrainian government's actions had destroyed all chances

for a two-week-old diplomatic deal to de-escalate the crisis. While Obama and Merkel projected unity on Ukraine, there were clear differences between the two leaders over U.S. spying — a touchy issue that has exasperated much of the German public after revelations that the National Security Agency had eavesdropped on Merkel's phone calls.

Continued next Page

Obama, Merkel warn Putin on Ukraine vote

Continued from frontw

Obama has vowed to end that practice, but a broader "no-spy" agreement sought by many in Germany hasn't panned out. Obama insisted the U.S. doesn't maintain that type of an arrangement with any country.

Merkel said that "we have a few difficulties still to overcome," while Obama said there are "some gaps that need to be worked through."

The leaders said they were committed to a "cyber dialogue" to resolve the lingering differences.

The U.S. and the European Union both ordered sanctions against Russian officials and individuals following Moscow's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula, but they have stopped short of broader sectoral sanctions out of concern about ricochet effects on European countries that do business with Russia.

Previously, Obama had said a Russian military incursion in eastern Ukraine would lead to those penalties, but on Friday, the two leaders signaled they could take such action even if Russia limited itself to more furtive means of stoking unrest in neighboring Ukraine.

"This is not necessarily what we want, but we are ready and prepared to undertake such a step," said Merkel, according to an English translation of her remarks, which she made in German. She has spoken with Putin more frequently throughout the crisis than perhaps any other Western leader. Echoing Obama's insistence that punishing Russia isn't the goal, Merkel said the sanctions threat comes bundled with a renewed offer to Moscow to choose a diplomatic resolution instead. She spoke The tough talk from Obama and Merkel — the two leaders at the forefront of Western efforts to rein in Russia's actions in Ukraine — came during a Washington visit in which the German chancellor was also meeting with U.S. lawmakers and promot-



President Barack Obama speaks during a joint news conference with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in the Rose Garden at the White House, in Washington, May 2, 2014. Merkel warned Friday that it was too soon to return to "business as usual" between the two allies after learning last October that the National Security Agency had eavesdropped on her.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

ing trans-Atlantic trade in a speech to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

In that speech, she said the free-trade deal could help open the way for Ameri-

can natural gas supplies to Europe. About one-third of Europe's energy now comes from Russia, and a majority of that supply passes through Ukraine, making

it even more vulnerable. The crisis over Ukraine, Merkel said, "could have a very positive effect" in promoting a much quicker agreement on the free-

trade agreement. Current U.S. regulations prohibit oil and gas exports to countries with which the U.S. does not have free-trade deals. □

Security Council holds emergency Ukraine meeting

CARA ANNA
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council on Friday for the 13th time failed to take action on the growing crisis in Ukraine, with Russian ambassador Vitaly Churkin demanding a "swift halt of all violence" and Western powers scoffing at his country's indignation.

Council members accused Russia of equipping and funding the pro-Russia forces that have seized government buildings in 10 eastern cities. Ukraine on Friday launched its first major offensive against the insurgency.

"Russia ... has released bands of thugs on Ukraine ... and is suddenly discovering this mixture might escape its control," French ambassador Gerard Araud

said. Russia called this latest council meeting, the second in a week. Churkin called on Kiev and its Western "enablers ... to not commit a fatal error" and stop the offensive, which he described as "criminal misadventures." He again called Ukraine's interim government illegitimate. But British Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant retorted that "Russia's synthetic indignation convinces no one," and U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power said Russia was "trying to insult the intelligence of the world community" by calling another urgent council meeting.

The council so far has been unable to agree on any action on Ukraine, as Russia holds veto power as a permanent council member.

The 193-nation General Assembly weeks ago affirmed Ukraine's territorial integrity in a surprisingly strong but nonbinding vote, showing Russia's isolated stance. Frustration soared Friday, and Araud despaired at the council's "impotence." "Peaceful protesters do not use grenade launchers," Lithuania's ambassador, Raimonda Murmokaite, said tartly. "They do not kidnap and shamelessly parade international observers." Earlier Friday, pro-Russia forces shot down two Ukrainian helicopters. And seven European observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe remain held by pro-Russia gunmen.

Ukraine has reported "many" rebels dead and wounded in its first major offensive against the in-

surgency. The Kremlin said Kiev's military move has "destroyed" the two-week-old Geneva agreement on calming the crisis.

Ukraine's deputy ambassador to the U.N., Oleksandr Pavlichenko, told the council that his country rejects all attempts by Russia to blame it for not upholding the Geneva agreement, and he dismissed as "false" Russian claims that some members of Ukraine's new military operation spoke English.

The council's president this month, South Korean ambassador Oh Joon, asked at the end of the meeting whether Russia was proposing some kind of council statement calling for an end to the violence. Churkin said "it would be good ... to make a statement all together." □



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New York City subway train derails; 4 hospitalized

FRANK ELTMAN
JIM FITZGERALD
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A subway train carrying 1,000 passengers shook through a tunnel, tilted and derailed on Friday, injuring more than a dozen people and frightening scores of others with sparks, smoke and sudden darkness.

Four people suffered serious injuries and were hospitalized, firefighters said. Some complained of chest pains. Fifteen others were treated at the scene.

The express F train was heading for Manhattan and Brooklyn when six of its eight cars derailed at 10:40 a.m. about 1,200 feet (365 meters) south of the 65th Street station in the Woodside section of Queens.

Passenger Rashmi Basdeo said the train suddenly "started to tilt and shake."

"It was scary," said the sales associate, who was taking the train to work in Manhattan. She said she held onto a post as the train came "screeching to a stop."

"We knew it was derailed from the sounds and the position of the car," she said.

Dozens of firefighters, police officers and paramedics converged. They used ladders to help passengers descend from the train to track level and guided them along the track to a sidewalk opening. The derailment happened about 30 feet (10 meters) below street level. Power was cut to the third rail to aid the rescue.

Deputy Assistant Fire Chief

James Leonard said the middle six cars of the eight-car train derailed but re-

mained upright.

The cause of the accident, which damaged the ex-

press tracks, was unclear.

There was no switch in the area, and the tracks were

no more than 20 to 30 years old, Metropolitan Transportation Authority chairman Tom Prendergast said. The train's operator and conductor will be tested for drugs and alcohol, he said. Passenger Tayyib Siddiqi said the accident started "with a little bit of turbulence."

"I saw sparks coming out of the right side of the train," Siddiqi said. "And then the train tilted a little bit. There was lot of noise, banging and then it felt like we hit the side wall."

He said a couple of seconds later the train came to a stop. "The train filled with smoke from the sparks, the brakes or whatnot. It was terrifying. It was a horrifying experience," said Siddiqi, adding that there was a lot of crying and frayed nerves afterward.

The train went dark after it happened. □



A crowd of emergency responders meet passengers being brought to the surface after a subway train derailed in the Queens borough of New York, May 2, 2014. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority said the severity of the accident was not yet known, but all passengers have been safely evacuated, with 19 injuries including four described as "potentially serious." (Robert Stolarik/The New York Times)

CDC confirms first case of MERS in American

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Health officials on Friday confirmed the first case of an American infected with a mysterious virus that has sickened hundreds in the Middle East.

The man fell ill after flying to the U.S. late last week from Saudi Arabia where he was a health care worker.

He is hospitalized in good condition in northwest Indiana with Middle East respiratory syndrome, or MERS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Indiana health officials, who are in-

vestigating the case.

The virus is not highly contagious and this case "represents a very low risk to the broader, general public," Dr. Anne Schuchat told reporters during a CDC briefing. The federal agency plans to track down passengers he may have been in close contact with during his travels; it was not clear how many may have been exposed to the virus. So far, it is not known how he was infected, Schuchat said. Saudi Arabia has been at the center of a Middle East outbreak of MERS that began two years ago. The virus has

spread among health care workers, most notably at four facilities in that county last spring.

Officials didn't provide details about the American's job in Saudi Arabia or whether he treated MERS patients. Overall, at least 400 people have had the respiratory illness, and more than 100 people have died. All had ties to the Middle East region or to people who traveled there. Experts said it was just a matter of time before MERS showed up in the U.S., as it has in Europe and Asia. "Given the interconnectedness of our world,

there's no such thing as 'it stays over there and it can't come here,'" said Dr. W. Ian Lipkin, a Columbia University MERS expert.

MERS belongs to the coronavirus family that includes the common cold and SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, which caused some 800 deaths globally in 2003. The MERS virus has been found in camels, but officials don't know how it is spreading to humans. It can spread from person to person, but officials believe that happens only after close contact. Not all those exposed to the virus become ill. □



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House leader Boehner to appoint Benghazi committee

BRADLEY KLAPPER
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) —

Republican leader of the U.S. House of Representatives declared Friday he would create a special committee to investigate the Benghazi attack, pro-

viding Republicans with a high-profile forum to target the Obama administration's credibility ahead of crucial November elections. A long-term investigation by a special committee could also provide a vehicle for Republican attacks on former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton ahead of another potential presidential run in 2016. She was in office at the time of the attack. Speaker John Boehner, the most powerful Republican in Congress, said U.S. officials misled the American people after the Sept. 11, 2012, assault on the U.S. diplomatic post in Libya that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans. He said emails released this week showed the White House has withheld documents from congressional investigators and asked, "What else about Benghazi is the Obama administration still hiding from the American people?" "Americans learned this week that the Obama administration is so intent on obstructing the truth about Benghazi that it is even willing to defy subpoenas issued by the standing committees of the people's House," Boehner, said in a statement. "These revelations compel the House to take every possible action to ensure the American people have the truth about the terrorist attack on our consulate that killed four of our countrymen." Republicans have accused President Barack Obama, a Democrat, and his top aides of seeking to deceive the public about the true circumstances of a major, al-Qaida-linked terrorist attack during the final months of the 2012 presidential campaign — charges which the presi-

dent and other U.S. officials reject. Boehner could schedule a vote as early as next week, a senior Republican aide said, which is a formality given the Republicans' control of the House. Democrats controlling the Senate have shown no interest in launching a similar probe. Boehner has been under intense pressure from rank-and-file conservatives and outside groups for a year to make the move. For Boehner, a special group, known as a select committee, raises the profile of one of the Republicans' main points of attack against Obama ahead of November's elections, which could swing the Senate to Republican control. Benghazi is a rallying cry for the conservative Republican base and will be critical for fundraising and getting voters to the polls in typically low-turnout contests in the middle of Obama's term in office. A select committee consists of members of both parties and is charged with monitoring a specific government action. The State Department, which ordered an independent review days after the attack, said the notion that it has stonewalled multiple, ongoing congressional investigations is "just false." "We've produced tens of thousands of documents. We've done nine hearings, 46 briefings," State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told reporters Friday. "We're committed to continuing to work with Congress. But what we're focused on and what we think Congress should be focused on is how to do this better in the future and how to bring those responsible for justice, not playing politics with Benghazi, as they continue to try to do." □



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington. Boehner says he'll establish select House committee to investigate the Benghazi attack. (AP Photo)

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Man pleads guilty in hair salon killings

AMY TAXIN

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, California (AP) — A man pleaded guilty Friday to killing his ex-wife and seven others in a shooting rampage at a California hair salon in 2011.

Scott Dekraai, 44, a former tugboat operator, entered his pleas to eight counts of murder and one count of attempted murder with special circumstances and enhancements in Orange County Superior Court.

Prosecutors have said they will seek the death penalty. Dekraai's lawyer says his client entered the pleas to spare victims' relatives from sitting through a trial. However, he said Dekraai will fight to keep from being sentenced to death.

Dekraai donned a bullet-proof vest before heading to the Seal Beach salon where his ex-wife worked as a stylist in October 2011. Authorities said he shot and killed Michelle Fournier before turning his gun on the salon's owner and spraying Salon Meritage with bullets. After leaving the building, Dekraai shot and killed a man who was sitting in his car in a parking lot, authorities said.

Police arrested Dekraai, who had been locked in a bitter custody dispute with Fournier over their 8-year-old son, within minutes.

"I know what I did," he told an arresting officer, according to a police affidavit.

The salon reopened about a year later, with six of the original employees returning to work.

Since the shootings, victims' relatives have pleaded with the judge at numerous hearings to hasten the case to trial. In March, Judge Thomas M. Goethals severed the guilt and penalty phases to prevent additional delays as Dekraai's lawyer Scott Sanders argues motions related to prosecutors' efforts to seek the death penalty. □

Lawyer: Stabbing suspect has psychosis signs

JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN

Associated Press

MILFORD, Connecticut (AP)

— A 16-year-old U.S. high school student charged in the fatal stabbing of a classmate on the day of the end-of-year prom dance is showing signs of an active psychosis, his attorney said Friday.

Christopher Plaskon, who made his first court appearance Friday, is charged with murder in the slaying of Maren Sanchez, a friend who was stabbed to death last week in a hallway at Jonathan Law High School in Milford.

Plaskon showed no visible emotion during the brief hearing.

He had handcuffs and leg shackles and no shoes as he stood next to his attorneys and his uncle Paul Healy, who was appointed his guardian.

Plaskon was ordered transferred to a juvenile prison, where he will be placed at a hospital under suicide watch. He will not enter a plea until after a probable cause hearing, which is scheduled for June 4.

His attorney, Richard Meehan, did not provide details of Plaskon's condition, but he did say the boy understands he's charged with murder and that Meehan is his attorney.

"I do believe he's sick," Meehan said, noting Plaskon had been under an

emergency commitment and will continue to receive psychiatric care. "Obviously what we don't want to see another trag-

to Sanchez's refusal to be Plaskon's prom date.

Meehan said Plaskon's parents wanted to attend the hearing, but he rec-

prosecuted as an adult, citing state law. Plaskon, who is being held on \$3 million bond, faces up to 60 years in prison with a



Christopher Plaskon, 16, second from right, stands with defense attorneys Edward Gavin, left, and Richard T Meehan, Jr., far right, and appointed guardian and uncle Paul Healy, second from left, during his public court appearance at Superior Court Friday, May 2, 2014, in Milford, Conn. He is charged in the fatal stabbing of Maren Sanchez, 16, who was stabbed to death on April 25 inside a hallway at Jonathan Law High School in Milford.

(AP Photo/Peter Hvizdak)

edy on top of the one that has already taken place here. We want to make sure that this young man is appropriately maintained while we do our job."

The attack occurred last Friday, hours before the prom, the traditional U.S. end-of-year dance for students in their last two years of high school. Police have been investigating whether it was related

commended against it because he believed it would be too difficult. He said they are in seclusion.

"All their hearts are broken," Meehan said, referring to Plaskon's family. "I think the word numb is probably the best word I could use to describe what these people are going through"

State's Attorney Kevin Lawlor decided Plaskon will be

mandatory minimum of 25 years if found guilty of murder, Lawlor said.

"This case is being treated as seriously as one can be," Lawlor said after the hearing. "I think what hits closest to home for everyone, particularly in this community, is that this happened inside of a school and it happened to an individual as young and as promising as this victim." □

Man gets life in prison for killing NYC therapist

JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)

— A schizophrenic man was sentenced Friday to life in prison without parole for hacking a psychotherapist to death with a meat cleaver, capping a criminal case confounded for years by questions about the attacker's mental health.

In a moving proceeding, David Tarloff described a constant battle occurring in his head and pleaded for mercy as he was sentenced on his first-degree murder conviction, a conclusion that came after repeated mistrials and findings that Tarloff was unfit for

court.

Tarloff, 47, never disputed killing psychologist Kathryn Faughey in February 2008 in her Manhattan office. Tarloff had never met her but intended to rob her office-mate — a psychiatrist he hadn't seen in 17 years — in hopes of netting tens of thousands of dollars to use to take his sick mother to Hawaii. His defense argued that the often hospitalized, frequently delusional Tarloff should not be held criminally accountable for the bloodbath. But prosecutors said despite his psychiatric condition, Tarloff — whose doctors had found him to be obsessed with religion —

behaved deliberately and knew he was doing wrong.

"His illness doesn't negate the ability to assess the morality of his actions," Manhattan Assistant District Attorney Evan Krutoy said in a closing argument. "Convict him. Because he's guilty."

But defense lawyer Bryan Konoski told jurors that "David's reality is nothing like any of you have ever experienced in your life."

Tarloff was diagnosed with schizophrenia while in college, when he told physicians he felt like his "brain was falling apart." Over the ensuing years, he reported seeing the "eye of God" on a kitchen floor, believing his

brain was talking to him as Satan and thinking he was the Messiah, medical records show.

By early 2008, he had become panicked about how a nursing home was caring for his mother, and he was fixated on getting her out. He came up with the robbery plot targeting Faughey's officemate, Dr. Kent Shinbach, who had been the first doctor to commit Tarloff to a hospital. Tarloff told authorities he figured he would get Shinbach's ATM card and withdraw \$40,000 or more. He later told doctors he believed he had God's blessing for his plan. □

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GM begins talks to settle ignition switch lawsuits

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — A mediator for General Motors has be-

gun negotiations about settling more than 300 claims related to a deadly ignition switch problem in some

older model small cars. Kenneth Feinberg confirmed in an interview with The Associated Press that

he met for four hours Friday with Robert Hilliard, a Corpus Christi, Texas, lawyer who said he represents families of 53 people killed and 273 injured in crashes of defective GM vehicles. Feinberg would not comment specifically on what was discussed.

"I'm evaluating various compensation options for GM to consider," said Feinberg, who said he plans to present the options to GM in the next few weeks. "I'm glad I met with him. It was an interesting meeting," Feinberg said.

Feinberg said he listened to Hilliard and four colleagues explain the "quality and quantity" of their cases. Hilliard said no dollar figures were discussed, adding that he won't settle at a discount to what his clients could get through court mediation.

GM has recalled 2.6 million small cars, mostly Chevrolet Cobalts and Saturn Ions, to replace the faulty

switches, which can slip unexpectedly out of the "run" position and cause the engines to shut down. If that happens, power-assisted steering and brakes will fail, making cars difficult to control. Also, the air bags won't inflate in a crash.

GM has admitted knowing about the problem for more than a decade, but it didn't start recalling the cars until February. The company counts far fewer victims than Hilliard, saying 13 deaths and 31 crashes are linked to the switches.

GM announced Feinberg's hiring at a congressional hearing last month. He is an expert in disaster fund management who handled the Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund as well as funds for victims of the Boston Marathon bombing and the BP oil spill.

At the hearing, GM CEO Mary Barra stopped short of saying the company would compensate victims. "We will make the best decisions for our customers, recognizing that we have legal obligations and responsibilities as well as moral obligations," she said.

There's a lot at stake in the negotiations.

Hilliard claims that if all the cases go to trial and juries rule against GM, punitive damages could place the company in financial jeopardy.

He cited a case earlier this month where a Louisiana federal court jury ordered Japanese drugmaker Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. and its U.S. counterpart, Eli Lilly and Co., to pay \$9 billion in punitive damages over a diabetes medicine linked to cancer. □



Kenneth Feinberg, an attorney who managed the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund, speaks during a news conference in Boston. Feinberg, hired by General Motors to settle claims from a deadly ignition switch problem, has started talks about compensating victims' families.

(AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

Virginia:

Crew, equipment likely didn't cause derailment

ALAN SUDERMAN,
LARRY O'DELL
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP)

— Early reviews found no human error or mechanical failure that could have caused a fiery derailment of an oil train in Virginia, the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board said Friday. Investigator Jim Southworth said a total of 17 train cars derailed Wednesday afternoon, with three tumbling into the James River. Southworth said one of those cars breached and caught

on fire. The CSX train was carrying Bakken crude from North Dakota when it derailed in Lynchburg, Virginia. CSX said in a statement Friday that all but two of the derailed cars have been positioned for removal from the site.

Southworth said at a news conference that investigators have interviewed the train's conductor and engineer, and reviewed footage from a camera mounted on the front of the locomotive and the train's data recorder that is

similar to a black box found on airplanes.

"I don't see anything in the way the crew handled the train that might contribute to this accident," Southworth said. He said they would continue to try to find the cause.

He also said no defects have been found in the train cars or the track signals. Southworth said there's still a large amount of work to do to examine the rail itself due to the ongoing cleanup. Recovery efforts are moving slowly because

of complexity involved in hauling a more than 200,000-pound (90,719-kilogram) tanker car out of the river by crane, he said.

The derailment was the latest in a string of oil-train wrecks, which has brought renewed demands that the Obama administration quickly tighten regulations governing the burgeoning practice of transporting highly combustible crude by rail. Some experts say stronger rules to head off a catastrophe are long overdue.



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Microsoft selects Miami for 1st US innovation center

LAURA WIDES-MUNOZ
Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Microsoft is opening a state-of-the-art training facility in Miami, its first within the United States, the company announced Friday.

The tech giant already has some 100 innovation centers in 80 countries worldwide in countries like Uganda and Greece. These centers aim to help governments, academic institutions, community leaders and startups better use technology to innovate and develop more collaborative learning — with the goal of spurring economic development. Along the way, of course, the company is cultivating a new generation of Microsoft loyalists.

Microsoft Vice President Sanket Akerkar told The Associated Press the company looked at Miami as a great hub for tech in the Southern United States.

"Miami is a great destination in and of itself," he said. "We've got forward thinking government leaders," he said. The Latin American connection also sets the city apart.

Microsoft is working with city and county officials to open the center next month. It will be housed at the new downtown, entrepreneurial institute Venture Hive. The Hive, which opened its doors last year thanks in part to city and country grants, already serves as an incubator and accelerator for some 35 companies from around the globe.

Venture Hive Founder Susan Amat says public, private and academic partnerships are key to developing the region's entrepreneurial and technology scene. □

US Financial Front:

American economy rebounds from brutal winter

C. S. RUGABER
JOSH BOAK
AP Economics Writers
WASHINGTON (AP)

— The American economy shrugged off the end of a brutal winter last month, rebounding with the biggest hiring surge in two years and suggesting that the job market's gains could endure.

Employers added 288,000 jobs across industries from manufacturing to construction to accounting. Even local governments hired. The unemployment rate sank to 6.3 percent, its lowest point since 2008, from 6.7 percent.

But the rate fell that far because many fewer people began looking for work in April, thereby reducing the number of unemployed. The proportion of Americans who either have a job or are looking for one dropped to a three-decade low.

And the monthly employment report the government released Friday showed that worker pay has yet to pick up — evidence that the job market has not fully recovered.

Yet April's robust hiring gains suggested that the economy is returning to the solid pace of growth it achieved in the second half of 2013, before it was hammered by a harsh winter. Job growth has averaged 203,000 a month in the past six months, similar to last year's average of 194,000.

Analysts said the economy is facing fewer hurdles now. In addition to better weather, growth is no longer held back by steep government spending cuts, which slowed growth in 2013. Many companies had also stockpiled too many goods last fall, forcing

them to cut back in the first quarter to clear their shelves.

"The absence of these factors is finally allowing the economy's underlying strength to come to the surface," said Bart Van Ark, chief economist at the Conference Board. "The result is not just a relatively strong gain in jobs in April but probably more of the same in May and June."

developers, data analysts and data scientists," says CEO Steve McHale. "The economy's improvement has served us well."

April's solid job growth wasn't enough to boost stock prices. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 48 points in afternoon trading.

The unemployment rate is now at the lowest level in 5½ years. It's fallen far

age of 6.1 percent. At that point, "you've typically seen wage and inflation pressures build," LaVorgna said. "And I see no reason why it won't happen this time as well."

Higher prices and rising incomes could also eventually force the Federal Reserve to more quickly withdraw its efforts to spur borrowing, spending and growth by holding down



John Soung, right, and Gabriel Fitzgerald, second right, talk to recruiter Todd Zedicher of Integrated Life Choices, left, at a job fair on the campus of Kaplan University in Lincoln, Neb. The Labor Department on Friday, May 2, 2014 said U.S. employers added a robust 288,000 jobs in April, the most in two years, the strongest evidence to date that the economy is picking up after a brutal winter slowed growth. (AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

Explorys, a health-care data provider, has ramped up hiring in the past six months as more hospitals have used its services to limit their costs. Explorys' software can analyze patient data to predict which ones are most likely to need follow-up visits at home to prevent any complications.

The Cleveland-based company has added about 30 people in the past six months, bringing its staff to about 140.

"We need more software

enough that economists are anticipating the key next step in an improving job market: higher pay. In the past, when employers have had to draw from a smaller pool of unemployed people, they've typically been forced to offer higher pay.

That hasn't happened yet. And analysts differ about when pay might pick up. Joseph LaVorgna, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank, noted that the unemployment rate is near its seven-decade aver-

interest rates.

Economists note that one-third of the unemployed have been out of work for six months or longer, and recent research suggests that many of them aren't being seriously considered by employers. If so, that would mean employers are competing for a smaller pool of available workers than the unemployment rate suggests and might have to raise pay soon.

Many of the long-term jobless stopped looking for work last month. □

Kerry in South Sudan to seek an end to fighting

MICHAEL R. GORDON
© 2014 New York Times
WASHINGTON/JUBA, South Sudan - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Friday that he had secured a commitment from Salva Kiir, South Sudan's president, to open talks with the former vice president who is leading a rebellion

against him. The negotiations could take place early next week. After meeting with Kiir, Kerry said the South Sudan leader had promised to "take forceful steps" to carry out a cease-fire agreement that the two sides had negotiated in January but promptly ignored, and to

begin a discussion on a transitional government. The talks are to take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, under the auspices of that country's prime minister, Hailemariam Desalegn. Riek Machar, the rebel leader, had previously signaled to the Ethiopians that he was prepared to

attend. Kerry said he planned to call Machar later Friday. Kerry's visit to South Sudan comes as violence has soared, efforts to deliver humanitarian aid have been frustrated and there are increasing reports of human rights abuses, including sexual violence and the recruitment of child soldiers. "Already thousands of innocent people have been killed, more than a million people have been displaced," said Kerry, who added that South Sudan could face "major famine" in the months ahead. "If both sides do not take steps in order to reduce or end the violence, they literally put their entire country in danger," Kerry said. Providing new details about efforts to beef up a U.N. peacekeeping force, Kerry said he expected 2,500 African troops to be deployed in the coming weeks and that a new U.N.

Security Council resolution would first need to be adopted. "We do need to secure an additional United Nations Security Council mandate," he said. "I hope it can be done quickly." Kerry acknowledged that the 2,500 troops that had been promised in his discussions with African leaders was about half of what many experts had expected. In December 2013, Kiir accused Machar, whom he had dismissed from his post in July, of mounting a coup. Machar, who had suggested that he might challenge Kiir for the leadership of their party, has denied the allegation. The rise in violence has become a major worry for U.S. lawmakers, some of whom say that the Obama administration has been slow to impose the economic sanctions it had threatened to enact.



Secretary of State John Kerry meets with President Salva Kiir of South Sudan in Juba, South Sudan, May 2, 2014. Kerry said on Friday that Kiir was committed to peace talks with rebels led by a former vice president, which could take place as early as next week.
(Lynsey Addario/The New York Times)

Hagel urges European allies to boost military spending

DAVID S. JOACHIM
© 2014 New York Times
WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel made a forceful case Friday for European members of NATO to increase their military spending, calling Russia's intervention in Ukraine a "clarifying moment" for the alliance. "In recent years, one of the biggest obstacles to alliance investment has been a sense that the end of the Cold War ushered in an end of history, an end to insecurity, at least in Europe, and the end of aggression by nation-states," Hagel said in a speech at the Woodrow Wilson Center. "But Russia's actions in Ukraine shatter that myth." Hagel's comments, referring to Russia's recent annexation of the Crimea region of Ukraine and efforts by pro-Russian forces since then to take control of more of the country, came as violence intensified between Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian militants in

eastern Ukraine. NATO's Eastern European members have said they are increasingly nervous about Russia's actions in Ukraine and the alliance's ability to counter them. The Kremlin said the latest clashes had destroyed "all hope" of carrying out its agreement with the West to tamp down the tensions. A meeting at the White House between President Barack Obama and Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany on Friday was expected to focus heavily on the crisis in Ukraine. In his speech, Hagel acknowledged that U.S. defense secretaries for decades have been calling on European allies to increase their military spending. But he said the United States' commitment was becoming "increasingly disproportionate." America's military spending is three times the combined military spending of the other 27 NATO members, Hagel said.

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Ukrainian unrest spreads; dozens dead in Odessa

JIM HEINTZ

PETER LEONARD

Associated Press

SLOVYANSK, Ukraine (AP)

— Ukraine launched an offensive against separatist forces for control of a besieged eastern city Friday, while clashes between pro-

and anti-government activists in the previously calm southern port of Odessa led to a fire that police said killed 31 people.

The first serious offensive by the government in Kiev and the dozens of deaths in Odessa sharply escalat-

ed the crisis that has led to the worst tensions between Russia and the West since the Cold war. The Kremlin said the battle for the separatist-held city of Slovyansk effectively destroyed the Geneva pact aimed at cooling the unrest in the

deeply divided country.

Oleksandr Turchynov, Ukraine's acting president, said many insurgents were killed or wounded in the eastern offensive that also underlined the military's vulnerability. The military action came two days af-

ter Kiev said it had lost control of eastern Ukraine.

Both sides said two Ukrainian helicopters were shot down by the insurgents near Slovyansk, killing two crew members, while authorities said another seven people also died: three separatist gunmen, two soldiers and two civilians.

By nightfall, Ukrainian troops and armored personnel carriers blocked all major roads into Slovyansk, and the central part of the city remained in the hands of pro-Russia gunmen, according to Associated Press journalists inside. Most shops were closed, and the few that were open were crowded with customers stocking up on supplies.

Sporadic gunfire was heard in Slovyansk's downtown late Friday, while Russian news reports said there were armed clashes in the nearby town of Kramatorsk. There was no immediate independent confirmation of fighting.

The Ukrainian Security Service said one helicopter was downed with a surface-to-air missile, adding that the sophisticated weapon undercut Russia's claims the city of 125,000 people was simply under the control of armed locals.

"Ukrainian security forces so far are not ready for large-scale military actions; moreover, such actions could provoke Russia's invasion," said Kiev-based political analyst Volodymyr Fesenko.

Russia has massed tens of thousands of troops in areas near Ukraine's border. Kiev claims Moscow is preparing to invade and that it is fomenting the unrest in the east, where insurgents have seized government buildings in about a dozen cities and towns. The Kremlin denies the allegations, but Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has warned Russia would respond to attacks on its citizens or interests in the east.

Unlike eastern Ukraine, Odessa had been largely tranquil since the February toppling of President Viktor Yanukovych, who fled to Russia. □



Pro-Russian activists walk by a barricade at the regional administration building in Donetsk, Ukraine, Friday, May 2, 2014. Ukraine launched what appeared to be its first major assault against pro-Russian forces who have seized government buildings in the country's east, with fighting breaking out Friday in Slovyansk that has become the focus of the insurgency.

(AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)

Countries searching for jet to meet on next step

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)

— Senior officials from Malaysia, Australia and China will meet early next week to decide on the next step in the search for the Malaysia Airlines jet, while expressing confidence Friday that the hunt was on the right track despite no wreckage being found so far.

Malaysian Defense Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said that the challenges were huge but he told reporters, "I believe we will find MH370 sooner or later."

Hishammuddin said he will travel to Canberra for the meeting on Monday on the approach forward regarding deployment of assets, engagement with victims' families and expert and technical advice.

An unmanned sub con-

tinued to scan the Indian Ocean floor off western Australia where sounds consistent with a plane's black box were detected in early April.

Additional equipment is expected to be brought in within the next few weeks to scour an expanded underwater area. The aerial search for surface debris ended this week.

Angus Houston, the Australian head of the search operation, said he was confident the wreckage was in that area based on the most promising leads. He said, however, that the chance of the U.S. Navy's Bluefin 21 robotic sub finding the wreckage are "probability ... lower than it was when we started the search."

Houston said the ministe-

rial meeting was crucial to "formalize the way ahead to ensure the search continues with urgency and that it doesn't stop at any stage."

He said that the search could take another eight to 12 months but "we are totally committed to find MH370."

Houston also said that Bangladeshi ships, including a vessel fitted with sonar equipment, had so far found nothing in the northern Bay of Bengal, where a resource survey company, Australia-based Geo-Resonance Pty Ltd., had claimed it found possible plane wreckage.

According to Hishammuddin, Malaysia was still considering whether to hire private deep sea vessels to search the Bay of Bengal

area as it could distract the main search and cost involved would be high.

"Many leads in the past have proven to be negative and this is similar to what we have done before," he said.

"There is nothing new, but we have informed the littoral states to verify this claim."

The Malaysian Boeing 777 disappeared March 8 with 239 people aboard, most of them Chinese, while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

In Beijing, relatives of the passengers complained that they were being told to vacate their hotel by 6 p.m. Friday, a day after Malaysia Airlines asked them to move out and wait at home for updates on the search for the plane. □

Dutch politician Fortuyn's killer freed after 12 years

TOBY STERLING

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — The animal rights activist who assassinated Dutch politician Pim Fortuyn was freed Friday, after serving just under 12 years in prison — years during which many of Fortuyn's ideas, particularly his disdain of "multiculturalism" and his dislike of Muslim immigration, have become mainstream in the Netherlands.

Volkert van der Graaf killed Fortuyn on May 6, 2002, days before national elections in which Fortuyn was set to win big on an anti-immigration platform that upended the then-progressive Dutch political landscape.

Fortuyn's slaying shocked a nation that had not seen anything like it. Voters flocked to the party of the martyred Fortuyn. But it lacked stability without its flamboyant leader, and the Netherlands entered a period of tumultuous politics that lasted a decade. Still, his ideas were increasingly taken up by successor parties and by the main-

stream right. Successive governments have passed laws ordering citizenship classes for immigrants and making it more difficult to immigrate but easier to be deported.

Criminals normally receive conditional release after serving two-thirds of a sentence in the Netherlands, but Van der Graaf's 18-year sentence was criticized as too light from the moment it was handed down. How could a man commit the premeditated murder of a politician and walk away 12 years later? Fortuyn supporters have scheduled a protest against his release in Rotterdam Friday evening, and right-wing groups have vowed to track Van der Graaf down and kill him.

Justice Ministry spokesman Jochgem van Opstal said Van der Graaf's release has conditions attached, including wearing a tracking ankle band and not visiting areas related to his crime or Fortuyn's family and political support.

But "judges determined

the punishment," he said. There is no death penalty in the Netherlands.

In Van der Graaf's case, judges had to choose be-

Van der Graaf was a vegan with a girlfriend and infant daughter who had devoted his life to animal rights causes. He claimed

ily, Van der Graaf in jail wrote to his girlfriend "if I ever give a statement to judges or the media, then of course it doesn't necessarily have to be the truth. For the outside world the truth isn't important, it only needs to be functional."

A small part of Fortuyn's platform was to ditch a proposed ban on mink breeding.

Van der Graaf said at his trial and later appeal he wasn't yet sure whether what he did was wrong. But he confessed, took responsibility for his actions, offered apologies to Fortuyn's family, and promised he would never do anything like it again.

"The public prosecutor's office has said there's no reason to think he will be a repeat offender," Van Opstal said.

Since 2002, Fortuyn-inspired governments have also introduced tougher criminal laws, including making it possible for judges to grant sentences of up to 30 years, or more for terrorist acts. Average sentence lengths have increased, and life sentences have become far more common. □



Dutch politician Pim Fortuyn arrives for a forum at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, Netherlands. The animal rights activist, 33-year-old Volkert van der Graaf, who assassinated Fortuyn in 2002 was released Friday May 2, 2014, after serving just under 12 years of an 18-year sentence.

(AP Photo/Fred Ernst)

tween a maximum sentence of 20 years for an odd but sane first-time offender — or life in prison without possibility of parole. They gave him 18 years.

at trial he had seen Fortuyn as "a danger for society," and compared his rise to that of Nazism in the 1930s. But in a letter leaked by a lawyer for the Fortuyn fam-

Landslide in Afghanistan kills at least 350

AMIR SHAH

RAHIM FAIEZ

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— A landslide triggered by heavy rain buried large sections of a remote north-eastern Afghan village on Friday, killing at least 350 people and leaving more than 2,000 missing. Villagers looked on helplessly and the governor appealed for shovels to help dig through the mass of mud that flattened every home in its path.

The mountainous area in Badakhshan province has experienced days of heavy rain and flooding, and the side of a cliff collapsed onto the village of Hobo Barik around midday. Landslides and avalanches are frequent in Afghanistan, but Friday's was one of the deadliest.

Gov. Shah Waliullah Adeeb said more than 2,000 people were missing after the landslide buried some 300 homes — about a third of all the houses in the area. At least 350 people were confirmed dead, according to Ari Gaitanis, a spokesman from the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. He said the U.N. was working with authorities on the ground to rescue people still trapped. The governor said rescue crews were working but didn't have enough equipment.

"It's physically impossible right now," Adeeb said. "We don't have enough shovels; we need more machinery."

Badakhshan provincial police chief, Maj. Gen. Fazluddin Hayar said rescuers had pulled seven survivors

and three bodies from the mounds of mud and earth but held out little hope that more survivors would be found.

"Now we can only help the displaced people. Those trapped under the landslide and who have lost lives, it is impossible to do anything for them," Hayar said.

Video footage of the scene showed a large section of the mountain collapsed, sending mud and earth tumbling onto the village below.

The landslide was likely caused by heavy rain, said Abdullah Homayun Dehqan, the province's director for National Disaster Department. He said floods last week in different districts of the province killed four people and eight more were still missing. □



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EU jobless down again for March

PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Further evidence emerged Friday to show that unemployment across the 18-country eurozone is falling on a consistent basis and that the region's recovery is on a sounder footing.

Eurostat, the EU's statistics office, said unemployment across the eurozone fell to 18.91 million in March from 18.94 million the month before. Though not a dramatic fall, it is a further improvement from last April's peak of 19.24 million.

The unemployment rate, however, was unchanged at 11.8 percent for the third month running following downward revisions to previous data largely due to Spanish census data. Again, as in the number of unemployed, the rate is down on the eurozone's record, reached in 2013, of 12 percent.

Timo del Carpio, European economist at RBC Capital Markets, said the figures "lend more weight to the view that unemployment in the euro area peaked late last year, which will offer some degree of reassurance to policymakers that the recovery is slowly gaining traction." Most economists expect unemployment to carry on falling, albeit modestly, over the months ahead as the economic recovery gathers pace — unemployment figures often lag growth.

Figures later this month are set to confirm that the eurozone grew in the first three months of the year, for the third quarter running. A number of surveys have indicated that the pace of growth may double from the 0.2 percent quarter-on-quarter rate recorded in the last three months of 2013. One of the main reasons behind the pick-up is that the financial stresses have eased in a number of the more indebted countries, such as Greece and Spain, following years of spending cuts and tax increases. □

Attacks in Egypt kill 5 ahead of elections

MAGGIE MICHAEL

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Suicide bombings in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula hit a police checkpoint and a passenger bus, and two Cairo bombings including one

In the May 26-27 election, Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, the now-retired army chief who led last summer's overthrow of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, appears poised to win on a wave of nationalistic fervor.

escalated since Morsi's ouster.

The violence first flared in Sinai, where several al-Qaida-inspired groups have long operated, but in past months it has moved into Egypt's heartland in the

the attacks are in retaliation for the ferocious security crackdown since Morsi's ouster that has killed hundreds of his Islamist supporters and arrested thousands more.

Morsi's backers have continued in protests against the interim government, often leading to bloodshed. On Friday, clashes erupted between Morsi supporters and locals backing security forces in Cairo and the country's second largest city, Alexandria, leaving two protesters dead and five wounded, according to security officials. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to brief journalists. The Interior Ministry said that police arrested 42 people during protests across the country in the course of the day, 27 of them in Alexandria.

In Friday's attack in Cairo, a homemade bomb exploded at a police post near a courthouse in the eastern district of Heliopolis, killing an officer and wounding three others, state media reported.

Late Friday, a car model Lada Niva without license plate exploded in a busy Cairo district of Ramses near a subway station, according to an Interior Ministry statement. □



Egyptian police officers close a street after a bomb blast that targeted a traffic police post in Cairo's Heliopolis suburb, Egypt, Friday, May 2, 2014. A bomb blast near a court building in Cairo killed at least one policeman and wounded a few others on Friday, shortly after two suicide bombers struck in Egypt's restive Sinai Peninsula in near-simultaneous attacks that killed at least one soldier and wounded several people.

(AP Photo/Ahmed Gomaa)

targeted police in new violence that killed at least five people Friday, a day before the start of campaigning in the country's presidential election.

Posters by his supporters around Cairo tout el-Sissi as a strongman in "the fight against terror" — a reference to a wave of Islamic militant attacks that have

Nile Delta and into the capital, Cairo — mainly in form of crude but often lethal bombings of positions of police or soldiers.

Militant groups have said

Cease-fire, evacuation deal in Syria's Homs

DUSAN STOJANOVIC

ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

HOMS, Syria (AP) — Isolated and battered after months of bombardment and blockades, Syrian rebels agreed Friday to a cease-fire that would allow hundreds of fighters to evacuate their last bastions in Homs, handing over to President Bashar Assad's forces a strategic but largely destroyed city once hailed as the capital of the revolution.

The deal reached on Homs, Syria's third-largest city, follows a series of military gains by the regime around the capital, Damascus, and in the country's vital center.

"It will certainly mark a new chapter for the regime, a

chapter where it's regaining control of the country," said Ayham Kamel, an analyst with the Eurasia group in London.

A government seizure of Homs would be "the icing on the cake for Assad," said Charles Lister, a visiting fellow at Brookings Doha Center.

Although the agreement, if it holds, represents a demoralizing admission of defeat by opposition forces, it can also be seen as a face-saving deal for both sides. Weakened rebels, for whom Homs' collapse was only a matter of time, get a safe exit, while the government can save manpower and weapons and claim it was able to retake the last rebel bastions without

blood.

The Syrian government can now declare a victory of sorts by claiming control over two of the country's largest cities — Homs and Damascus — as well as the Mediterranean coast, Assad's ancestral heartland. But Assad has lost control over large swaths of territory, particularly in the north, and continues to rule over a divided country with a raging insurgency. Syrian officials have scheduled elections for June 3 but say balloting will not take place in rebel-held areas.

The 48-hour cease-fire deal, reported by opposition activists and pro-government TV stations, came after heavy airstrikes and artillery bombardment of

rebel-held areas intensified in recent weeks.

In a sign the truce was taking hold, an Associated Press team in Homs on Friday reported that the city was unusually quiet, with no shots fired from either side.

The bloodstained city in the central western plains of Syria was among the first to rise up against the president. Early on, residents tried to recreate the fervor of Egypt's Tahrir Square with waves of anti-Assad protests, only to face siege upon siege by government forces. Homs became a battleground that left entire blocks and much of its historic quarters in ruins with collapsed walls and scorched buildings. □

Uruguay: Mujica calls Colorado pot law 'fiction'

L. HABERKORN
Associated Press

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP) — President Jose Mujica says Uruguay's legal marijuana market will be much better than Colorado's, where the state doesn't track the drug once it's sold. He also took aim at the medical marijuana laws many U.S. states have adopted, saying they enable people to fake illnesses to get prescription weed.

Uruguay's system will be much tougher on drug users,

fine print.

"We don't go along with the idea that marijuana is benign, poetic and surrounded by virtues. No addiction is good," he said. "We aren't going to promote smokefests, bohemianism, all this stuff they try to pass off as innocuous when it isn't."

They'll label us elderly reactionaries. But this isn't a policy that seeks to expand marijuana consumption. What it aims to do is keep it all within reason, and not allow it to become an ill-

they buy no more than 10 grams a week.

Mujica also criticized the medical marijuana laws passed by 21 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

"There are places where there are forms already filled out with a doctor's signature. So you go, you say that you need marijuana because your ear hurts, they fill out the form, you prescribe it yourself and with the signature of a doctor. This is brutal hypocrisy."

Mujica sat down for an AP



Uruguay's President Jose Mujica poses for a photo with his dog, Manuela, at his home on the outskirts of Montevideo, Uruguay, Friday, May 2, 2014. Mujica says the country's legal marijuana market will be much less permissive with drug users. "We don't go along with the idea that marijuana is benign, poetic and surrounded by virtues. No addiction is good," he said. In an exclusive Associated Press interview just before releasing his country's long-awaited marijuana rules, the former leftist guerrilla predicted that many will call him an "old reactionary" once they see the fine print. (AP Photo/Matilde Campodonico)

ers, and more effective in combatting illegal drug trafficking, predicted Mujica, who will visit President Barack Obama in the White House on May 12.

He says his government will license and regulate the entire marijuana business, enforcing pot possession rules as well as limits on production and sales so that violators get punished and addicts get help.

In an exclusive Associated Press interview just before releasing his country's long-awaited marijuana regulations, the former leftist guerrilla predicted that many will call him an old reactionary once they see the

ness."

Uruguay plans to disseminate clones of government-approved marijuana plants, so that police can test weed possessed by licensed users and ensure that it's bona fide. Possession of marijuana lacking the genetic markers of approved plants will be criminally punished.

Mujica said "it's a complete fiction what they do in Colorado," which licenses marijuana sellers and producers but allows any adult to buy up to 28 grams at a time. In Uruguay, consumers must be licensed as well, and each purchase will be tracked to ensure

interview in his garden after a quick ride in his Volkswagen Beetle with his wife, Sen. Lucia Topolansky, to the butcher's shop to buy some meat for dinner. He answered questions surrounded by chickens, cats and dogs, including a greyhound someone recently abandoned at the gates of the small farm on a hill overlooking Montevideo where he lives and grows flowers for sale.

It's a critical time for Mujica, who has staked his presidency on out-competing traffickers and treating marijuana more as a problem of public health than law enforcement. □

Toronto mayor commences his rehabilitation treatment

ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Toronto Mayor Rob Ford began treatment for substance abuse, his brother said Friday, two days after a second video emerged that appears to show the mayor puffing from a crack pipe.

Doug Ford told The Associated Press he has been in touch with his brother, but declined to say where he was being treated, or how long he would stay there. "He's in a good place. Everything is fine. He's going to get over this little challenge and get back to business," Doug Ford said.

Ford announced Wednesday that he would take leave for an unspecified amount of time from both his mayoral post and his re-election campaign, but he did not abandon his bid for a second term as mayor of Canada's second largest city.

Political observers say the populist mayor, who was elected four years ago on a wave of support from Toronto's conservative suburbs, is done for and has no chance of winning October's election. But in the suburbs that elected him and where his promises to slash spending, cut taxes and end what Ford has called "the war on the car" are treasured, some die-hard loyalists are sticking by him.

"He's been involved with the people, he wants to save people money," said Kalyan Gohain, 43, a sales executive who lives in Ford's suburb of Etobicoke. "For those people who aren't financially well off, he knocked on their doors to see where their problems were. That's what the mayor should do, to see and hear from the people what they want."

Ramandeep Singh, 36, said he voted for Ford in the last election and will do so again.

"He's done a good job. If you look at how this city is running and working," Singh said.

Ford likely never would have been elected mayor had it not been for a merger of the metropolitan Toronto area in 1998, forced on the city by the Conservative provincial government. Central Toronto merged with five neighboring conservative-leaning municipalities, creating a mega-city that now has 2.7 million residents.

Now the experts, for the most part, agree: Rob Ford's days in politics are almost certainly over — in the near future at least — and it is only the constant media attention that has created a false impression that the mayor's political support remains strong.

"Because he's such a fascinating individual, he's a perfect storm for the media, and for people who are taken with celebrities," said Nelson Wiseman, a political science professor at the University of Toronto. "But the people who want selfies with him are looking for entertainment. Those are not people who are going to go door to door for him."

Grace Skogstad, a professor of political science at the University of Toronto's campus in Scarborough, one of the amalgamated suburbs where Ford has been most popular, said the mayor likely blew his chances for redemption by waiting too long to seek help.

"He still has some fans," Skogstad said. "Had he sought the kind of help he needed earlier, he could have had a fighting chance for re-election."

Sairah Nazir, 34, a mother of two who lives in Etobicoke, said she will not be voting for Ford again.

"He does do stuff for the community, that's why I like him but at the same time he needs to show he's improving his image," she said. □



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worthy "Protect the Reefs bracelet" program. The simple concept of a set of three awareness bracelets has been initiated to develop more reef care awareness and educational programs on Aruba. You can feel good knowing that 100% of your \$15.00 donation towards the at-

tractive bracelet trios will show your support for the Marine Park Foundation. The attractive bracelets can be used as a special gift or as an Aruba souvenir. This joint venture was first created between the Marine Park Foundation and the Jolly Pirates for their concerns for healthy reefs,

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If you wish to help create more Awareness for the project, you can make a donation and wear one of the Save the Reef - bracelets for yourself. Bracelets also make great souvenir gifts and can be purchased at the Jolly Pirates Souvenir shop located at Moomba Beach. ☐



Steve Savage performing at The Sopranos Piano Bar Aruba

PALM BEACH - Steve Savage is in Aruba to perform at The Sopranos Piano Bar at Arawak Gardens, J.E. Irausquin 368, where he'll be performing a limited engagement through May 15. Steve hails from the gut of America's rock 'n roll heritage, New Jersey. For the past two years he has traveled the world performing throughout the USA, Asia and the Caribbean. Steve discovered the dueling piano bar circuit while studying music in Boston, where he still performs frequently. He was quickly enamored with the high-energy concept. Steve's vocal and piano styles are influenced heavily by Bruce Springsteen, James Taylor, Elton John, Stevie Wonder and Ray Charles. He delivers a high-energy, interactive show that draws from a diverse repertoire of music spanning the past 60 years, including standards, Motown, 1980s hair-metal, classic rock, Top 40 hits — even disco, country and hip hop.



Most recently, Steve has split his time between performing dueling piano gigs around the USA and solo piano bar gigs aboard the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, where he remains one of the highest-rated players in the fleet. He performs Sunday through Friday from 8pm to 1am. □

The Casino at the Radisson gears up for Mother's Day!



PALM BEACH - Following a most perfect Easter and King's Birthday Day celebration, the Casino at the Radisson is gearing up for Mother's Day, hosting Sunday's Super Mother's Day, on May 11th, 2014.

Bingo will be played that day at 1pm, \$10 per card, with more than \$2,450 in prizes.

The casino will also be orchestrating a giant giveaway for spa treatments, dinners, and baskets.

Early birds may get their Bingo cards from 11am, at the casino cage.

During the Sunday's Super Mother's Day, the casino will elect its Mother of the Year, who will enjoy free bingo for twelve months. The casino promises lots of fun and surprises, as well as live entertainment for those who drop in, and as an added value, Bingo's game 8 will feature the giant progressive jackpot now at US\$23,534 or AWG 41,890.52.

Pictured here, one of the Easter Bingo winners, one of ten recipients of an Easter

Goodie Basket, made by Hostess Niricha Kelly. Moreover, on King's Birthday, April 26th, the casino picked its own king, loyal patron Theodoro Leon from Cashero, now known as King Leon I. He received his crown, and \$50 Free Play, besides a delicious lunch at the Laguna restaurant.

During Bingo's intermission the casino surprised guests with a Hot Seat Raffle, for a total of 20 Hot Seat winners, receiving cash, free play, lunch, Larimar Spa manicures, Larimar Spa pedicures and promotional items.

The day was a complete success, and the casino marketing team is looking forward to a fun Mother's Day, in the spirit of all other holidays celebrated at the casino.

Arthur Dock who has been visiting Aruba many years, recently celebrated his 88th birthday here, accepting a decorated cake from the casino, which surprised and delighted him as it was paired with a special serenade. □

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Aruba Tourism Authority honors group of Loyal Visitors!



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, at the Costa Linda Beach Resort, as Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years.

The honorees were Dennis and Margaret Hart of Palm Coast, Florida, whom are also here for their 50th anniversary, James and Carole Schultz of Lake Arrowhead, California, Lennert and Sharon Forsman of Leland, North Carolina, Dave and Dottie Wills of Cincinnati, New York, and Mildred Stash of Clark Semmit, Pennsylvania. All the honorees are loyal members of the Costa Linda Beach

resort and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, beaches and restaurants, and because Aruba feels like a second home where the people are like family and Costa Linda is their home away from home. The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Gloria Janga and Miriam Rodriguez representing the Costa Linda Beach Resort. □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

Arel Wenté hosts an annual Ladies Lunch at Windows on Aruba



DRUIF BEACH - Arel Wenté, Wenté Vineyards Family Estates, California's oldest, continuously operated, family-owned winery, represented on the island by Arion Wine Company, hosts a different group of ladies for lunch in Aruba each year. The guests, all food & beverage professionals on the island enjoy gourmet cuisine, peppered with wine-chat, and Arel delights in asking them questions about their back-

grounds, likings, and experiences, as she finds she understands the island and its people better that way. On the list of this year's lunch guests Jennifer Goetze, Yemanjá Woodfire Grill, Tamara Berkers, Marriott Aruba Resort & Stellaris Casino, Emilia Lopez Henriquez, Texas de Brazil restaurant, and Raiza Castillo de Lange, of Authentic Cigars. Assisting Arel Wenté, who is the wife of 4th genera-

tion wine maker Eric Wenté, with her hostess duties Louise Does, of Arion Wine Company. The group lingered over deliciously paired food and wine at Windows on Aruba, Divi Links. Arel found the view to be spectacular and noted how much she liked the decor, especially the two paintings at the entrance of the restaurant. Escorting the appetizer, main and shared Petit Grand Dessert, Wenté Vine-

yards Louis Mel Sauvignon Blanc, Wenté Vineyards Reliz Creek Pinot Noir and Wenté Vineyards Riverbank Riesling. While guests convened for lunch at about 12noon, they left the restaurant close to 4pm, as they loved sipping wines and engaging in unrushed conversation. Arel Wenté, Owner at Wenté Vineyards, from the Livermore Valley in California, has visited the island on nu-

merous occasions, accompanying her husband Eric, while he hosted charity golf tournaments or conducted wine seminars. They both direct the company's diverse operation with a hands-on style, which they share with all of the Wenté family members, including their son, fifth generation Winemaker and Senior Vice-President of Winemaking, Karl D. Wenté, who is responsible for all winemaking at Wenté Vineyards. □



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CASINO AND SHOPS



Floyd Mayweather Jr. poses on the scales during the official weigh-in at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Friday, May 2, 2014.

Associated Press

Mayweather works hard to sell \$32M payday

TIM DAHLBERG

AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Floyd Mayweather Jr. is enough of a businessman to know his latest fight would be a tough sell, especially after setting records with Canelo Alvarez his last time out. But sell he must, even though oddsmakers and nearly everyone else give Marcos Maidana little chance in their welterweight title fight Saturday night. A full house is already guaranteed at the MGM Grand hotel arena, but Mayweather needs people at home to pay \$64.95 for the fight if he is going to recoup his guaranteed \$32 million purse.

So Mayweather hinted this week that this might be his last fight, though few in boxing believe that. He also said he planned to stand in front of Maidana and trade punches with the hard-hitting Argentine, though his history in the ring suggests he won't.

Oh, and he wants to score a knockout, something he's done only once in the last seven years.

Continued on page 21

LEADER'S SHARE



Flores shares 2nd round lead; Mickelson falters

Martin Flores watches his putt on the fifth hole during the second round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament in Charlotte, N.C., Friday, May 2, 2014.

Associated Press
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NL Capsules

Marlins rally to beat Braves 5-4 for 3-game sweep

MIAMI (AP) — Giancarlo Stanton and Casey McGehee hit consecutive run-scoring singles off David Carpenter during a two-run rally in the seventh inning as the Miami Marlins beat the Atlanta Braves 5-4 Thursday for a three-game sweep of the National League East leader.

Miami has won six straight home games for the first time at Marlins Park, which opened in 2012. It is the longest home winning streak for the team since the Marlins won eight in a row from June 20 to July 1, 2009.

With the Marlins trailing 4-3, pinch-hitter Reed Johnson singled off Ian Thomas (1-1) leading off the seventh and took second on Christian Yelich's single. Derek Dietrich lined out, and Carpenter relieved and gave up the back-to-back hits.

Mike Dunn (3-3) pitched a hitless seventh, and Steve Cishek got four outs for his sixth save.

REDS 8, BREWERS 3

CINCINNATI (AP) — Brayan Pena's second career pinch-homer started Cincinnati's five-run, eighth-inning rally.



Miami Marlins' Casey McGehee hits an RBI-double to score Derek Dietrich in the first inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves, Thursday, May 1, 2014, in Miami. Associated Press

Tucker Barnhart led off the fifth with his first career homer and Todd Frazier added a two-run drive in the sixth off Marco Estrada, who gave up six hits and four walks in

six innings.

Pena had homered during a 9-4 loss to the Chicago Cubs on Wednesday night. He hit for Bailey with the score tied at 3 in the

eighth and connected on the first pitch from Jim Henderson (2-1) for a two-run homer.

Homer Bailey (2-2) allowed eight hits in a season-high eight innings. ROCKIES 7, METS 4

DENVER (AP) — Carlos Gonzalez homered before leaving with a finger injury, Juan Nicasio pitched seven scoreless innings and drove in three runs, and Colorado beat New York.

Corey Dickerson had three hits, including an RBI triple and Nolan Arenado singled leading off the third to extend the majors' longest active streak to 21 games. He's tied for the fourth-longest hitting streak in Rockies team history.

Gonzalez connected for his sixth home run of the season in the first inning, driving a 3-2 offering from Bartolo Colon (2-4) off the right-center field facing just below the second deck. Gonzalez was lifted in the fourth inning, replaced by pinch hitter Brandon Barnes, because of what the team said was a bruised left index finger. His playing status was listed as day to day. Nicasio (3-1) got the win. □

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Wieters homers in the 10th, Orioles sweep Pirates

BALTIMORE (AP) — Matt Wieters led off the 10th inning with a home run off Stolmy Pimentel to give the Baltimore Orioles a 6-5 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates and a doubleheader sweep Thursday night.

In the opener, Steve Pearce had three hits and two RBIs in his return to the Orioles, who got a home run from Nick Markakis in a 5-1 win. The single-admission doubleheader followed consecutive rainouts on Tuesday and Wednesday. The rain lingered long enough to delay the fifth inning of the opener by 21 minutes, and the start of the nightcap was stalled 46 minutes by rain. The second game marked the season debut of Orioles third baseman Manny Machado, who had left knee surgery in October. After sitting out the opener, Machado received a warm ovation from the crowd of 28,290 before the second game and went 0 for 5.

MARINERS 4, YANKEES 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Robinson Cano doubled and drove in two runs, Roenis Elias struck out 10 in seven impressive innings and Seattle beat New York.

Michael Saunders had three hits, including an RBI double, to help the Mariners win for the fifth time in six games following an eight-game skid. Seattle won both games in a rain-shortened series that marked Cano's return to New York after signing a \$240 million, 10-year contract with the Mariners during the offseason.

The All-Star second baseman was booed again and finished the series 2 for 9 with three RBIs. Seattle has won four straight at Yankee Stadium dating to last season.

RAYS 2, RED SOX 1, GAME 1; RAYS 6, RED SOX 5, GAME 2

BOSTON (AP) — Yunel Escobar homered off closer Koji Uehara leading off the ninth inning to propel Tam-

pa Bay to a 6-5 win and a day-night doubleheader sweep of Boston. Escobar crushed the second pitch from Uehara (0-1) over the Green Monster in left field for his second homer of the year, and Grant Balfour recorded the final three outs for his second save of the day and sixth of the season. Sean Rodriguez and Desmond Jennings also went deep for Tampa Bay, which won for just the third time in nine games. Jake McGee (2-0) earned the win with one inning of scoreless relief. Tampa Bay won the opener, 2-1. David DeJesus had a homer and drew a bases-loaded walk, and the Rays' bullpen pitched 4 1-3 scoreless innings.

BLUE JAYS 7, ROYALS 3

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Mark Buehrle pitched into the seventh inning, Juan Francisco and Colby Rasmus each went deep and Toronto avoided a series sweep. Francisco and Rasmus each drove in a pair of runs for the Blue Jays, as did Anthony Gose, who was recalled from Triple-A Buffalo to start in place of injured outfielder Melky Cabrera. Buehrle (5-1) worked through plenty of trouble to last 6 2-3 innings, allowing two earned runs on seven hits and a pair of walks. It was a solid bounce-back performance after the left-hander was hammered for seven runs last Friday night against Boston.

Aaron Loup pitched 2 1-3 shutout innings for his third career save. The Royals' Jeremy Guthrie (2-2) left trailing 4-3 after six innings.

INTERLEAGUE GAME

DODGERS 9, TWINS 4, Game 1; DODGERS 4, TWINS 3

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Scott Van Slyke and Drew Butera homered in the 12th inning and the Los Angeles Dodgers held on to beat the Minnesota Twins to earn a sweep of the day-night doubleheader on Thursday night. □



Baltimore Orioles' Matt Wieters, left, watches his solo home run in the tenth inning in the second baseball game of a doubleheader against the Pittsburgh Pirates, Friday, May 2, 2014, in Baltimore. Associated Press

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California Chrome sets gold standard for Derby

BETH HARRIS

AP Racing Writer

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP)

— The owners of California Chrome are putting all their hopes into the chestnut colt to win the Kentucky Derby. After all, he's the only horse they own.

California Chrome, based at lesser-known Los Alamitos racetrack in suburban Los Angeles, is the early 5-2 favorite for Saturday's 140th Derby with good reason. He has won four straight races by a combined 24 1/4 lengths under Victor Espinoza, who won the Derby in 2002 with War Emblem.

"He's so light on his feet," Espinoza said. "He just does things so easy and makes my job easy."

California Chrome's owners, Steve Coburn and Per-



Exercise rider William Delgado takes Kentucky Derby entrant California Chrome for a morning workout during a morning workout at Churchill Downs Friday, May 2, 2014, in Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press

he's doing good," Sherman said. "He's coming up to this race right."

Rosie Napravnik wants to grab history, too.

No female jockey has won the Derby, although she came closest — fifth last year. Napravnik will ride 20-1 shot Vicar's In Trouble. Her husband, Joe Sharp, works closely with the Louisiana-bred colt as assistant to trainer Mike Maker.

"The story would almost be too good if we won it," she said. Wicked Strong is the early 6-1 second choice. The colt is named for the victims of last year's Boston Marathon bombings and is trained by Jimmy Jerkens, who has his first Derby horse.

Trainer Todd Pletcher has four horses in the Derby — Danza and Intense Holiday are both 8-1 while his other two are longer shots, 30-1 Vinceremos and 50-1 We Miss Artie. Danza is named for "Taxi" actor Tony Danza, who planned to attend the Derby. Maker will saddle three horses, all long shots. Besides Vicar's In Trouble, he has 15-1 General a Rod and 50-1 Harry's Holiday.

"When those gates open, anything can happen," Maker said. Three-time Derby winner Bob Baffert is down to 20-1 shot Chitu after being forced to scratch early second favorite Hopportunity because of a minor foot problem.

"California Chrome has proven he's a really good horse," Baffert said, adding, "There's a lot of parity in this field. Everybody might have a chance."

Getting the ideal trip is important, especially with the traffic from 19 horses making a chaotic charge into the first turn. Jockeys want to avoid anything that would prevent their horse from getting into rhythm, like being bumped, cut off or blocked.

Sherman says the key is the first 70 yards.

"You want to get out and get yourself some position," he said.

The forecast calls for sunny skies and a high of 73 degrees, with a crowd of at least 140,000 expected. □

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ry Martin, are no Kentucky blue bloods. They're a couple of working stiffs who live near Reno, Nevada.

A trainer called them "dumb asses" for getting into the racing game, inspiring the duo to put the letters DAP on their silks, which stands for Dumb Ass Partners.

"We're going to go down in history," Coburn predicted. California Chrome is the product of an \$8,000 mare and a \$2,500 stallion. He's earned more than \$1 million already, making it somewhat easier for Coburn and Martin to turn down a pre-Derby offer of \$6 million for a 51 percent stake in the horse.

"We've been blessed with this colt," Coburn said. "The first time we saw him, we knew it was going to be something special."

If their tale seems improbable, well, it's happened before at Churchill Downs. Mine That Bird, a 50-1 shot owned and trained by two guys from New Mexico mocked as cowboys, pulled off the stunning upset in the 2009 Derby.

At 77, Art Sherman, who oversees California Chrome, would be the oldest trainer to win. His colt would be the first California-bred to wear the garland of red roses in 52 years.

"He's feeling good and

Mayweather

Continued from page 17

"I want to look impressive," Mayweather said. "I want to put on a good show. We don't expect this fight to go the distance."

Mayweather returns to the ring for the first time since dominating Alvarez in boxing's richest bout, taking on Maidana in a fight that even Mayweather seems to have trouble expressing much enthusiasm about. He's a bigger, much more skilled fighter than the Argentine, just part of the reason oddsmakers make him a 11-1 pick to remain undefeated in the 46th fight of a pro career that has made him the richest fighter ever.

Still, Mayweather (45-0, 26 knockouts) says he has to be wary of the power Maidana brings into the ring.

"He's got an 80 percent knockout ratio so I can't go to sleep on this guy," he said. "But guys can't go to the mental level I'm at. I can beat them many ways."

The fight is part of a pay-per-view card that features former champion Amir Khan moving up to

welterweight to fight another former champion in Luis Collazo. Khan had campaigned to be Mayweather's opponent and won an online poll set up by Mayweather, who ended up picking Maidana instead.

If Khan is impressive, though, and Mayweather wins as expected, the two could meet later this year.

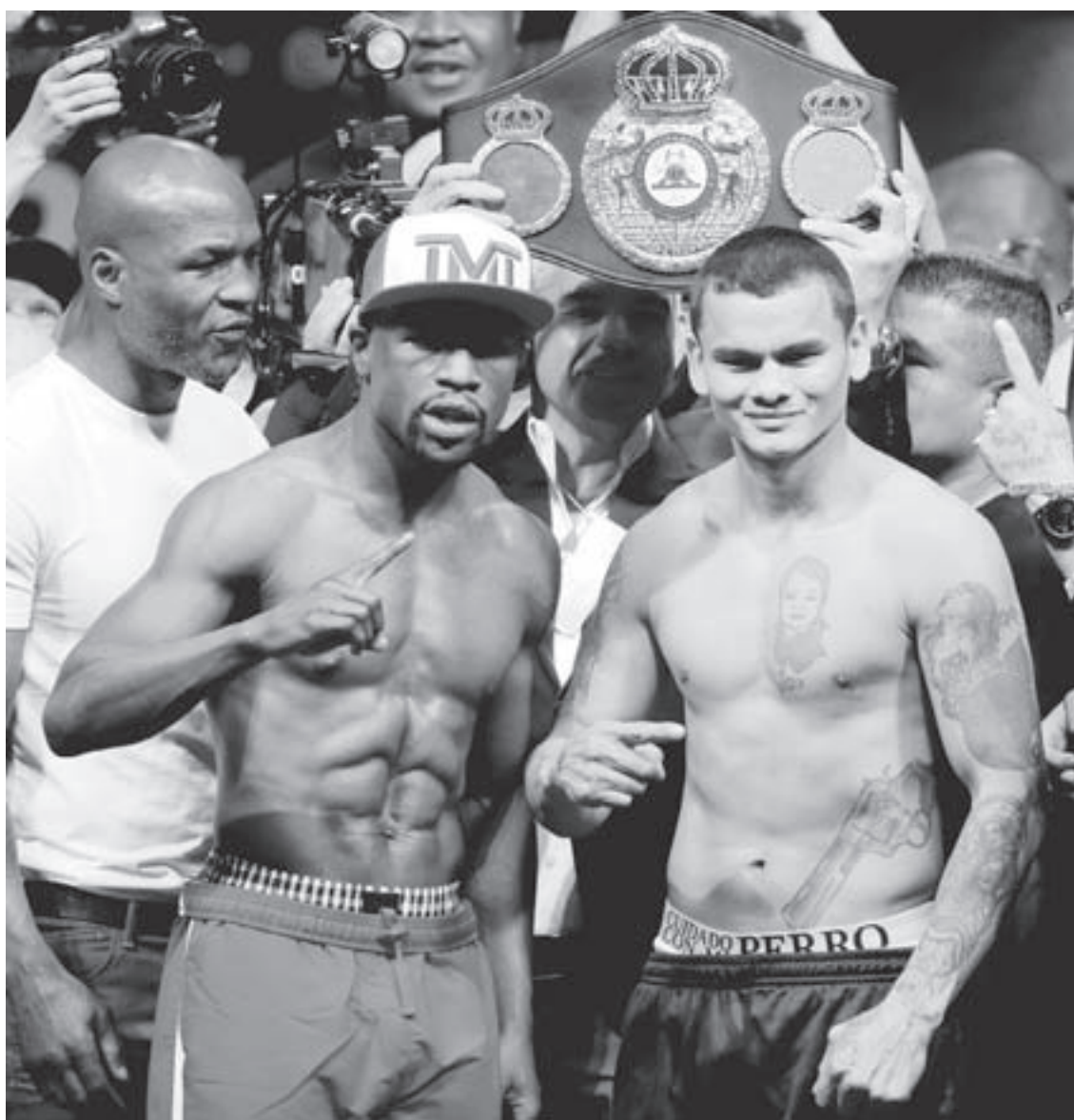
"I would have loved to fight Floyd Mayweather, but I believe it's really for the best," Khan said. "It gives me a chance to get to 147 and feel my way."

Maidana (35-3, 31 knockouts) earned the fight with a strong showing in his last bout, twice knocking down Adrien Broner on his way to a decision win in December. Though Maidana hits hard, he will be up against a fighter who is such a defensive wizard that he rarely gets hit with more than one punch in any exchange.

"It's very difficult to land a punch against Mayweather," Maidana said. "But when I land a punch I'm going to hit him and not let him go. I will go after him."

Mayweather, who weighed in Friday at 146 pounds to 146 ½ for Maidana, said he welcomes the challenge after easily beating Alvarez last September in a fight that was supposed to be his toughest test.

"If he brings his best maybe he will be the first guy that actually makes me dig in my bag of tricks and pull out my 'A' game," May-



Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, poses on the scales with Marcos Maidana during the official weigh-in at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Friday, May 2, 2014. Mayweather is to face Maidana in a welterweight title fight on Saturday.

Associated Press

weather said. "Hopefully he will make me bring out my 'A' game because my whole career all I had to use was a 'D' and 'C' game to beat every guy." If the Alvarez fight showed anything other than Mayweather's talent for making money — and tons of it — it was that a conventional fighter stands little chance

against him. He's been dodging punches since before he could walk, and he's a wizard at exploiting whatever weakness he finds in the fighter in front of him.

"I can feel when a guy's gonna punch. I can feel it," Mayweather said. "I don't even have to see it; I can feel it. You know, this is just

with experience and being around the sport so long." Maidana says he can become the first to beat Mayweather because he will be the first to treat him just like any other fighter in the ring. "Other fighters they show respect, they show fear," he said. "That's one thing I won't show against Mayweather."



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Cabrera, Flores tied for lead at Quail Hollow



Angel Cabrera, of Argentina, watches his tee shot on the 11th hole during the second round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament in Charlotte, N.C., Friday, May 2, 2014.

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - Angel Cabrera never knows when he's going to play his best golf. This could be shaping up as one of those weeks at the Wells Fargo Championship. On a Quail Hollow course that lets the Argentine hit

driver on just about every hole, two exquisite short-game shots late in the second round carried Cabrera to a 3-under 69 on Friday and a share of the lead with Martin Flores going into the weekend. It was the first time Cabrera had at least a share of the 36-hole lead on the

PGA Tour since the 2007 U.S. Open at Oakmont. The last time he was part of the lead after any round was in the 2013 Masters. With one of the most powerful and reliable swings in golf, the mystery about the 44-year-old Argentine is that his only two on the PGA Tour are majors - Oak-

mont for the U.S. Open, and Augusta National when he won the Masters in a playoff in 2009.

"I'm of course happy to be in position to win this tournament, but every time I go out and play, I'm hoping to win," Cabrera said. "It's difficult to know exactly when you're going to play well. I don't think anybody knows when they're going to play well." Flores couldn't ask for a better start, and his finish wasn't too bad, either. Flores began his second round birdie-eagle when he holed out with a wedge from 105 yards in the 11th fairway. He added a pair of birdies late in his round for a 68.

They were at 9-under 135, one shot ahead of Justin Rose, who had a 67.

Phil Mickelson and Rory McIlroy went the other direction.

Mickelson, one shot out of the lead to start the second round and perfect conditions ahead of him, seemed to miss every putt that he made on Thursday. He had a 75 and fell seven shots out of the lead.

"I can't believe the difference in putting from yesterday to today," Mickelson said. "Yesterday, I saw every ball go in the hole. And today I couldn't get them to fall and was three-putting, which is funny because the greens today were so perfect. ... I struggled today. I don't have any great reason. It didn't feel far off."

"I just struggled getting the ball in the hole."

So did McIlroy, starting with a three-putt from 18 feet on the second hole. He drove behind a tree on the third hole and hit into a bush on the fourth hole, both times taking a penalty drop and making double bogey. He wound up with a 76 and made the cut on the number at 1-over 145. McIlroy missed five putts from 6 feet or closer.

"I just didn't have my game today," McIlroy said. "Off the tee it was good. I didn't get the ball close enough. My putting didn't feel as comfortable

as it did yesterday."

The 16th hole sized up his day. McIlroy blasted a tee shot beyond the crest of the hill, a 375-yard drive that left him a simple wedge to the green. He wound up making bogey when he missed from just inside 4 feet.

The biggest turnaround in the other direction belonged to Brendon de Jonge, who grew up in Zimbabwe and now lives in Charlotte. He opened with an 80, and followed that by tying the course record at Quail Hollow with a 62. Now he's tied with Mickelson.

"Strange game," de Jonge said.

The leaderboard was filled with players trying to win for the first time. Flores is in his fourth full season on the PGA Tour and has never finished in the top three. Shawn Stefani had a 68 and was two shots behind, while Kevin Kisner had a 66 and was three back.

And there are plenty of major champions who haven't been heard from much over the last few years.

Martin Kaymer (2010 PGA Championship) had his second straight round of 69. Stewart Cink (2009 British Open) salvaged bogey from the water on the 17th and finished with a birdie for a 70. They were in the group at 6-under 138. Geoff Ogilvy (2006 U.S. Open) had seven birdies in his round of 67 and was four shots behind.

Leading the way was Cabrera, who only seems to win majors.

He made his move late with four birdies, and the last two were superb. Cabrera hit 8-iron over the lip of a fairway bunker on the par-5 seventh hole, but left himself 40 yards from a front pin. He played a pitch-and-run to about 5 feet behind the hole for a birdie to tie for the lead.

"The chip was more complicated," he said. "I needed to decide if I wanted to bring it up or keep it low and let it bump, so I ended up doing that. It was a great shot." □

Subban leads Canadiens to 4-3 OT win over Bruins

JIMMY GOLEN
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — P.K. Subban scored his second goal of the game in the second overtime to give the Montreal Canadiens a 4-3 victory over the Boston Bruins on Thursday in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The goal came 7 seconds into the Canadiens' second power play of overtime. Fans pelted the ice with cups and giveaway towels as the players filed off of the ice.

Carey Price stopped 48 shots for Montreal, while Rene Bourque and Francis Bouillon also scored for the Canadiens, who blew 2-0 and 3-2 leads in the third period.

Tuukka Rask made 29 saves for the Bruins, who finished



Montreal Canadiens' P.K. Subban follows through on his game-winning goal in the second overtime period against the Boston Bruins in Game 1 of an NHL hockey second-round playoff series in Boston, Thursday, May 1, 2014.

Associated Press

the regular season with the best record in the NHL, but lost home-ice advantage in the series.

The Bruins, who never led in the game, outshot the Canadiens 14-6 in the third period and twice rallied to tie it.

The Canadiens picked up a questionable power play at the end of the first overtime and failed to score, but there was little doubt about the call when Matt Bartkowski was sent off for taking down Dale Weise in the crease to keep him from getting to a loose puck.

Montreal won the ensuing faceoff and worked the puck around to Subban, who slapped it past Rask to end the game.

Game 2 is Saturday in Boston. □

Gift Guide: Solid tech options for upgrading mom

RON HARRIS

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Mom is busy.

She's working and making and doing and raising you, among other things. In return, it's probably time for her to upgrade her aging PC or laptop. Hint, hint.

To that end, I've found and tested three products with all the latest touch-screen creature comforts: one tablet, one laptop and one all-in-one, which is a computer where the crucial components (CPU, optical drive, hard disk drive, RAM) are all built in to the housing of the display.



This April 24, 2014 photo shows the ASUS VivoTab Note 8 tablet computer, in Atlanta. Associated Press

— Asus VivoTab Note 8 (\$299, Windows 8):

Your mom is probably like a lot of busy moms who use their smartphones for nearly everything to do with staying connected. But occasionally a little more screen size would do nicely. The Asus VivoTab Note 8 is a solid pick for a tablet. The Note 8 has an 8-inch display, measured diagonally, and can quickly go from easy, breezy light-use mode to professional environment workhorse.

Popular social media apps such as Facebook and Twitter are just a touch away. But when it's time to get productive, that's where having a full version of the Windows 8 system comes in handy. Strong, office-ready apps, such as Microsoft Office, deliver the utility mom is accustomed to, in a way iPads and Android tablets can't.

The Wacom stylus pen is an attractive bonus. It tucks away in a hole near the base when not in use. But you'll use it on some Windows applications that have less than finger-friendly menus, or to doodle some notes in the margins of documents.

I tested it out with various drawing apps, like

Pen Sketch. Its sensitivity and ability to vary the weight and thickness of the strokes was really impressive.

When I took some notes at a city hall meeting using Microsoft's OneNote, it looked exactly like smooth pen on paper. There were no jagged, pixelated edges on my lines, and the stroke weight of my jotted notes matched the various pressure I applied while scribbling.

The VivoTab Note 8 battery boasts 8 hours of life and comes with Microsoft Office for free. It's typically free only on tablets with a lightweight variant of Windows called RT. The Note has the full version.

It also has a MicroSD slot for expanded storage, which can come in handy if your mom shoots a lot of video. The base model has just 32 gigabytes, typical for Windows tablets. The quad-core Intel Atom processor is strong enough for any tablet tasks. The display is sharp. There's a lot for mom to like here.



This April 25, 2014 photo shows the Lenovo Flex 15D laptop computer, in Atlanta. Associated Press

— Lenovo Flex 15D (\$499, Windows 8):

Touch screens on laptops are tricky. Touch them too hard with one finger and the laptop rocks back, or tips over. It's not a good experience if the screen is teetering back and forth when you interact with it.

Lenovo Group's Flex 15D solves that. The laptop's hinge is designed such that the keyboard half of the laptop can face down and act as a stand for the touch display. What you lose in terms of a physical keyboard in this configuration, you gain by have a sturdy and pleasing angle by which to view and access the display. It's a sleek-styled laptop, tapered thin near the touchpad below the keys. The straight lines and minimalist bezel design make this a very eye-appealing addition to the office or household.

Underneath all that sleek is enough power to get mom through her tasks. The Flex 15D has a quad-core AMD 1.5 GHz processor, four gigabytes of RAM and a 500 gigabyte hard drive.

The touch screen responded well to my pinches and swipes, but I found the resolution a little soft. It's sharp enough for most common tasks, but non jaw-dropping sharp.



This April 24, 2014 photo shows the ASUS All-in-One PC ET2322 desktop computer, in Decatur, Ga. Associated Press

— Asus All-in-One PC ET2322 (\$1,099, Windows 8):

All-in-one desktop computers have finally hit their full stride with the advent of touch-screen interaction. This Asus unit is big and bold. It handled visually oriented tasks on my desktop effortlessly. The display is a lush 23-inch full high-definition screen that delivers rich colors with crisp sharpness. At that size, it's good to be sharp because there's going to be a lot of video viewing and photo slideshow swiping going on. The display houses all of the guts of the computer — the hard drive, processor, RAM, optical DVD-RW drive. It all rests on a circular, silver stand that can angle the screen for sight-level comfort. Looks aside, this is a powerful PC with an Intel Core i5 processor.

Moms are going to like launching simple pastime apps with the swipe of a finger and then settling down with the wireless keyboard and mouse for some home office productivity. I know I did.

Also tucked under the lower left of the screen is a 6-in-1 card reader, for camera memory cards and more. Near the top is a 2 megapixel user-facing camera makes for solid selfies and Skype chats. I kept looking around for something Asus-Tek Computer Inc. forgot on this unit — some weak link in the chain of performance. If it's there, I missed it. □

Wall Street ends week lower on mixed earnings, Ukraine

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Major U.S. stock indexes ended lower on Friday as a surprisingly strong report on job gains failed to impress in-

added 288,000 jobs in April, 70,000 more than expected. Hiring was stronger in the prior two months than initially estimated, too. The unemployment rate for April plunged to 6.3 per-

cent, the lowest since September 2008. A few details of the report were less encouraging. The drop in the unemployment rate likely reflected long-term jobless who had been

out of work for six months or more before finally giving up looking for work. People aren't counted as unemployed unless they're looking for a job.

"Long-term unemployment is higher than expected, but overall (the report) is positive," said Brad Sorensen, director of market and sector research at Charles Schwab. He added, "There isn't a ton of enthusiasm in the market."

Among the stocks taking big hits Friday was Madison Square Garden, which fell \$3.62, or 6.6 percent, to \$51.47. The owner of sports teams and entertainment venues like Radio City Music Hall said its earnings fell by half in its fiscal third quarter, partly due to a management change and a costly delay for a Rockettes production.

Among the gainers was Wynn Resorts, which rose \$15.05, or 7 percent, to \$221.68 after reporting that its first-quarter net income grew 12 percent. The company cited strong

gambling revenues from its growing operations in Macau. More than halfway through the first-quarter reporting season, earnings for all companies in the S&P 500 are forecast to have grown 1.7 percent, according to S&P Capital IQ, a data provider. That compares with nearly 8 percent last quarter. "We've got decent earnings growth, but it's not great," said Dan Morris, global investment strategist at TIAA-CREF. "We want the market to always hit new highs, but it has to be driven by earnings growth."

On Friday, the S&P 500 fell 2.54 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,881.14. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 45.98 points, or 0.3 percent, to 16,512.89. The Nasdaq composite dropped 3.55 points, or 0.1 percent, to 4,123.90.

In Ukraine, the government sent armored vehicles and troops to oust pro-Russian insurgents who had seized buildings in at least 10 cities. □



Ares Management CEO Tony Ressler, right, accompanied by his son Oliver Ressler, left, and NYSE Executive Vice President Scott Cutler, rings a ceremonial bell as his company's IPO begins trading, on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Friday, May 2, 2014.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

vestors.

Stocks rose in the early going after the government reported that U.S. employers hired at the fastest pace in two years last month. The Standard and Poor's 500 index briefly rose above its record closing high.

The market started to slump in late morning trading on news of downed helicopters and killed fighters in eastern Ukraine. Early Friday Ukrainian government forces attacked pro-Russian insurgents in the region.

All three indexes wavered between gains and losses for most of the day.

Among the biggest losers was LinkedIn. The online professional networking service fell 8 percent after reporting its largest quarterly loss since going public. Expedia, the online travel site, fell nearly 4 percent, and Pfizer fell 1.3 percent after the drug company's latest offer to buy AstraZeneca was rejected by its board.

In the jobs report, the government said employers

US factory orders increase 1.1 percent in March

M. CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Orders to U.S. factories advanced strongly in March for a second month while demand in a key category that signals business investment plans increased by the largest amount in more than a year. The strength was further evidence that the economy was rebounding after a harsh winter.

Orders increased 1.1 percent in March after increasing 1.5 percent in February, the Commerce Department reported Friday. Those gains followed two months of declines in December and January. Orders for core capital goods, considered a good proxy for business investment, jumped 3.5 percent in March, rebounding from a 0.9 percent drop in February. It was the biggest increase since January 2013.

Economists say rising demand will boost factory production in coming

months, helping the overall economy emerge from a winter slowdown.

In other upbeat news, the Labor Department said Friday that the economy added 288,000 jobs in April, the biggest monthly gain in more than two

years, with the unemployment rate falling to 6.3 percent, its lowest level since September 2008.

Orders for durable goods, items expected to last at least three years, rose 2.9 percent in March, an improvement from an initial

estimate of a 2.6 percent in the advance report released last week. There were widespread gains in a number of areas with increases in demand for machinery, computers and primary metals such as steel. □



In this photo, Jesus Rodriguez grinds steel at the IDEAL Group in Detroit. The Commerce Department released factory orders for March on Friday, May 2, 2014. (AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

Chevron profit plunges on lower production, prices

JONATHAN FAHEY

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Chevron Corp. reported a steep decline in first quarter profit because of lower global oil prices and bad weather that slowed oil production. Chevron said Friday that it earned \$4.52 billion in the first three months of the year on revenue of \$50.98 billion.

Last year during the same period, Chevron earned \$6.18 billion on revenue of \$54.3 billion.

On a per share basis, Chevron earned \$2.36, down from \$3.18 last year. Analysts had expected Chevron to earn \$2.54, on average, according to FactSet. Chevron shares fell 2 cents to \$124.92 in morning trading.

Chevron and other major oil companies are struggling to maintain production as they drain oil and gas from their fields around the world.

At the same time, the cost of exploring new fields is ris-

ing as they have to venture into more extreme and remote conditions to access hydrocarbons.

Profits are getting squeezed as these costs rise, because average oil prices have been roughly flat for about three years.

Chevron is developing several enormous projects in Australia and the Gulf of Mexico that are expected to help the company grow production in the coming years. But they aren't producing anything yet, and

analysts worry about the company's ability to get the projects up and running on time and on budget.

In the first quarter of this year, Chevron's oil and gas production fell 2 percent worldwide.

In the U.S., production fell 4 percent as higher production of oil and gas in New Mexico and western Pennsylvania were more than offset by normal field declines elsewhere.

Overseas, where Chevron produces the vast major-

ity of its oil and gas, production fell 2 percent. Increased production from projects on Nigeria and Angola was offset by field declines and weather-related shut-downs in Kazakhstan.

The average price Chevron fetched for its crude oil fell 3 percent both in the U.S. and abroad as oil prices around the world slipped slightly.

Results at Chevron's refining operations rose slightly, thanks to improved performance in the U.S. □

CVS Caremark 1Q profit jumps 18 percent



In this March 2014 photo, a pedestrian passes a CVS store in Philadelphia. CVS reported strong quarterly earnings on Friday, May 2, 2014.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

TOM MURPHY

AP Business Writer

CVS Caremark's first-quarter earnings jumped 18

percent as generic drugs and an acquisition helped the drugstore chain and pharmacy benefits man-

ager weather rough winter storms. The company runs the nation's second-largest drugstore chain, with many

of its nearly 7,700 stores on the East Coast and in the Midwest, areas blasted by snow storms and sub-zero temperatures this past winter. CVS Caremark said that weather, plus a weaker flu season compared to last year, hurt sales at its established stores.

CEO Larry Merlo told analysts during a Friday conference call that the company normally doesn't blame the weather when it explains results, but it was making an exception.

"This quarter, the amount of extreme weather was so abnormal that, quite frankly, it's hard not to talk about it," he said.

CVS Caremark Corp. also runs one of the biggest pharmacy benefits management operations, and that segment played a large role in its growth during the quarter. Sales from that unit, which runs pre-

scription drug plans for employers and other clients, climbed more than 10 percent to top \$20 billion in the quarter. It was helped in part by rising drug prices, as well as the company's acquisition of the drug infusion business Coram.

Growth in generic drug use also helped the company's bottom line, as it has done for several quarters now for CVS and other drugstores. Generics, which are cheaper than brand-name drugs, provide a wider margin between the cost for the pharmacy to purchase the drugs and the reimbursement it receives. CVS earned \$1.13 billion, or 95 cents per share, in the three months that ended March 31. That compares with earnings of \$954 million, or 77 cents per share, in last year's quarter. Revenue climbed 6 percent to \$32.69 billion. □

News Corp. says will acquire Harlequin Enterprises

IAN AUSTEN

© 2014 New York Times

OTTAWA, Ontario - News Corp. said Friday that it would acquire Harlequin Enterprises, the publisher of bodice-ripper romance novels, for 454 million Canadian dollars (\$413 million) in cash from Torstar, the publisher of The Toronto Star. "Harlequin is a perfect fit for the new News Corp., vastly expanding our digital platform, extending our reach across borders and

languages, and is expected to provide an immediate lift to earnings," Robert Thomson, chief executive of News Corp., said in a news release.

Once the deal closes, probably in the third quarter, News Corp. will fold Harlequin into its HarperCollins Publishers unit.

A shift in readers' tastes, which many analysts attributed to the "50 Shades of Grey" trilogy of erotic novels, has recently depressed

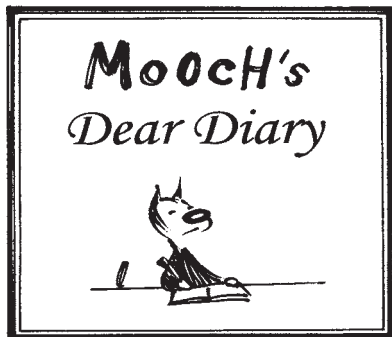
Harlequin's revenue in some crucial markets at the same time that Torstar is grappling with declines at its core newspaper business. Like many book publishers, Harlequin has also had revenue fall because of price wars in digital editions. Harlequin will remain headquartered in Toronto, the company said, although Canada produces only about 5 percent of its revenue.

Under Canadian law, for-

eign companies cannot own Canadian book publishers. But the rules can be waived if the Department of Canadian Heritage determines that the sale will provide a "net benefit" to Canada. HarperCollins is among several foreign publishers that have been able to pass that test in the past. "Harlequin has been an important part of Torstar over the past 39 years and we are very proud of the global success it has

achieved," David Holland, the chief executive of Torstar, said in a statement. "While making the decision to sell has been difficult, we are confident that this transaction represents excellent value for Torstar shareholders, and it also further strengthens the financial position of Torstar." Neither company offered specifics about its plans following the sale. Torstar said it would use an unspecified amount to pay off debt

Mutts



5-3

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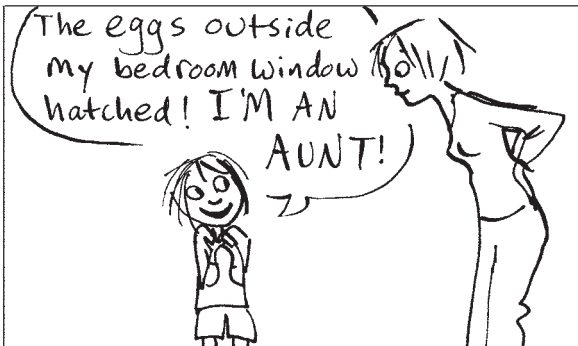
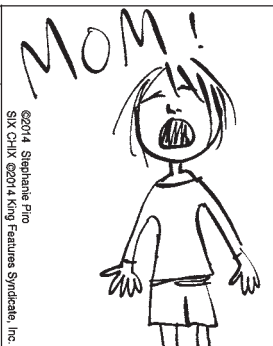
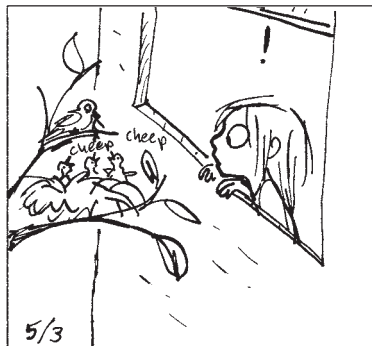
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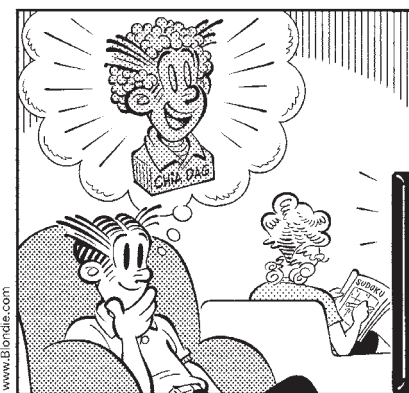
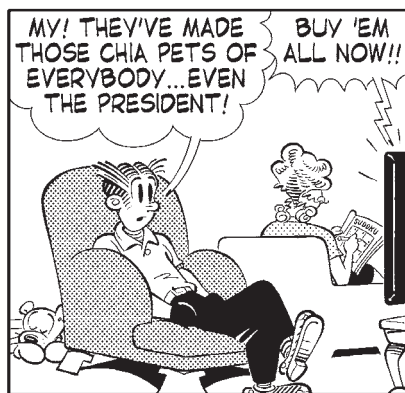
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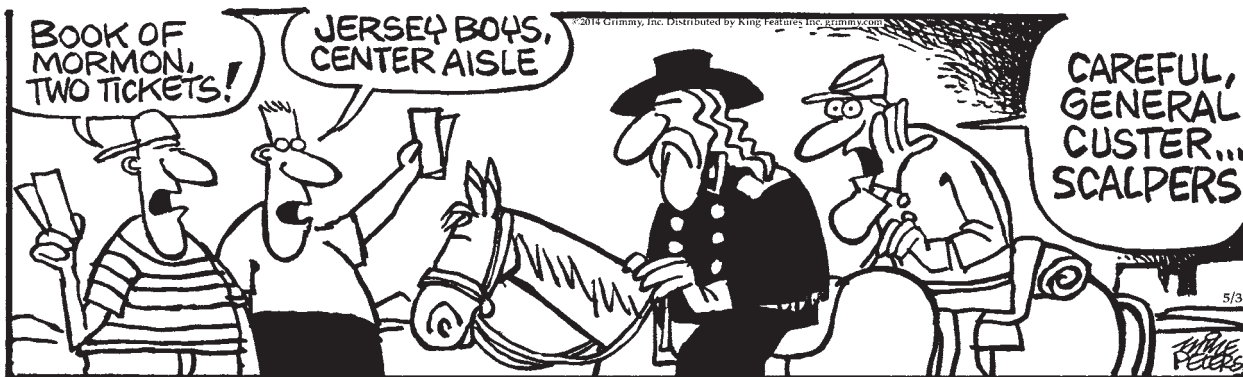
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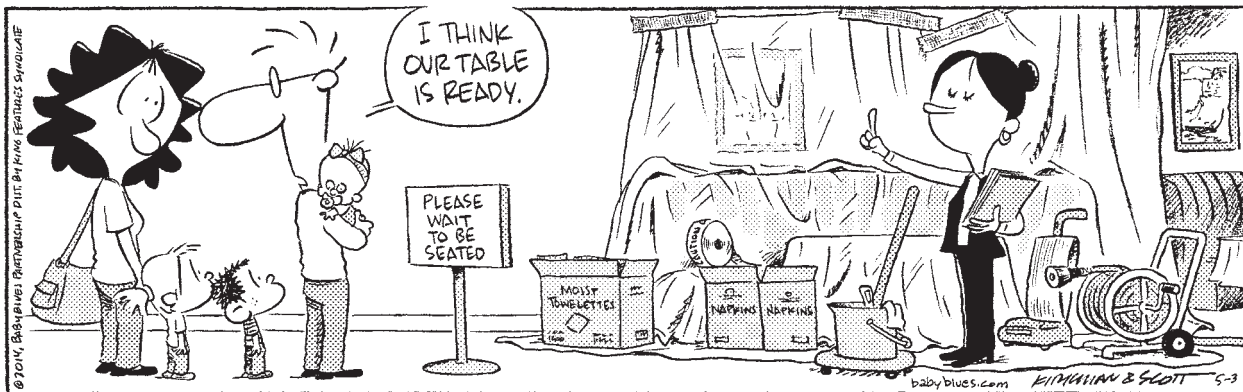
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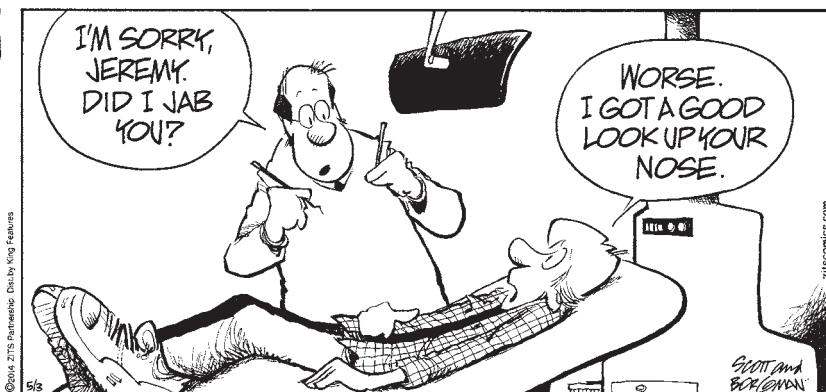
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



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Conceptis Sudoku

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| 3 | | | | 1 | | | | 8 |
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| 6 | 8 | | | | | | 1 | 3 |
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| | 7 | | | 8 | | | 5 | |
| | | | 2 | | 7 | | | |
| 4 | | | | 9 | | | | 6 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yesterday's puzzle answer | 5 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 6 |
| | 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 7 |
| | 9 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 5 |
| | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 4 |
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| | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| | 8 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 2 |

ACROSS

- 1 Twosome
- 5 Rascal
- 10 Close angrily
- 14 Haywire; not quite right
- 15 Mistake
- 16 Vagabond
- 17 Give a hoot
- 18 Roomy
- 20 Retina's place
- 21 Actor Danza
- 22 Landlord's collections
- 23 Wacky
- 25 Jelly-like material
- 26 Gushed out
- 28 Crown
- 31 Santa's helpers
- 32 Universe
- 34 Ear of corn
- 36 Peruse
- 37 Yearned
- 38 TV's Imogene
- 39 Prohibit
- 40 Extend one's subscription
- 41 Actor Tom
- 42 Larry, Moe or Curly Joe
- 44 Remove from the throne
- 45 Faux __; social blunder
- 46 Reflective crystal
- 47 "Peer Gynt" playwright
- 50 Doe or stag
- 51 Wedding words
- 54 Usurers
- 57 Read quickly
- 58 Old magazine
- 59 "Bye, Juan!"
- 60 Breathe heavily
- 61 Snow toy
- 62 Walking around with a long face
- 63 Additionally

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|--|----|---|---|---|---|--|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | | 15 | | | | | | 16 | | | |
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| 59 | | | | | 60 | | | | | | 61 | | | |
| 62 | | | | | 63 | | | | | | 64 | | | |

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/3/14

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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|-----------|-----------|-------|
| ICY | AGAZE | DASH |
| DUES | SIREN | ECHO |
| ABLE | TRESS | SMOG |
| SPECULATE | PEWS | |
| PETS | MOO | |
| STRIDE | REBUTTED | |
| CRANE | DEALT | AVE |
| RUNG | HASTE | APES |
| ACT | DOMES | CLERK |
| MESSIEST | COASTS | |
| ODD | SLOB | |
| PLEA | OSTEOPATH | |
| ROAR | WHEAT | MAID |
| OGRE | NORTH | ANDY |
| POND | SENSE | SEE |

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5/3/14

DOWN

- 1 __ oneself;
- 2 Out of town
- 3 Beside the point
- 4 Bread variety
- 5 Moment
- 6 Close friend
- 7 Military force
- 8 Family member
- 9 In favor of
- 10 Knight's defensive plate
- 11 Aquatic bird
- 12 Touch
- 13 Velvety green growth
- 19 Great fear
- 21 Ballerina's support
- 24 Ran up a tab
- 25 Coat with a thin layer of gold
- 26 Kosovo native
- 27 "Guilty" and "Not guilty"
- 28 TV's __ Carey
- 29 Cost-effective
- 30 Makes fun of
- 32 Merlot or rosé
- 33 Afternoon hour
- 35 First, second, third or home
- 37 Cribbage pieces
- 38 Berets & tams
- 40 Reddish horses
- 41 One named in a will
- 43 Unlocked
- 44 Like formal attire
- 46 Tea variety
- 47 Misfortunes
- 48 Painful swelling
- 49 Out of danger
- 50 Faucet problem
- 52 Rather and Marino
- 53 Aware of the duplicity of
- 55 Show-off
- 56 Fuss & bother
- 57 Health __

Yes, Silicon Valley, there is such a thing as not enough bureaucracy

CLAIRE CAIN MILLER
© 2014 New York Times

The dirtiest word in Silicon Valley is bureaucracy. Tech executives want to move quickly - a Facebook company motto is "move fast and break things" - and layers of bureaucracy, such as human resources departments, are seen as the enemy of speed and efficiency. But there is a reason that big, successful companies have layers of bureaucracy - even if they do slow things down. And tech companies are learning that the hard way.

GitHub is an example. The web service, for sharing and collaborating on software code, has been under fire after a female engineer named Julie Ann Horvath quit and described a culture toward women of bullying and disrespect. GitHub's co-founder and chief executive, Chris Wanstrath, wrote a blog post about the situation this week, and one sentence in particular struck at the core of the problem. "Our rapid growth left the leadership team, myself included, woefully unprepared to properly handle these types of situations," Wanstrath wrote.

Telling evidence: Although GitHub was founded in 2008, it hired a senior human resource executive only this year.

"If there is no structure, that's actually more harmful to marginalized people," Horvath said in an interview while she still worked at GitHub.

GitHub is not unusual. Tech startups with 100 or fewer employees have half as many personnel professionals as companies of the same size in other industries, according to data from PayScale, which makes compensation software and analyzed about 2,830 companies.

At many tech startups, the role of the human resource department is to compete in the talent war for engineers and provide a Ping-Pong table, a keg and free burritos. Other personnel

functions, like providing parental leave and channels to report misbehavior, go ignored. Evan Williams, Twitter's co-founder and

neurs gave little thought to human resources. Nearly half of the companies left it up to employees to shape the culture and perform



Julie Ann Horvath, who recently quit her job as an engineer at the software developer GitHub, describing its culture as demeaning toward women, in Seattle. Silicon Valley's go-fast mentality and notorious aversion to bureaucracy often leaves tech firms unready to deal with thorny human resources issues. (Stuart Isett/The New York Times)

former chief executive, said his biggest mistake at the company was an HR-related one: not hiring enough experienced people quickly enough during the company's period of hypergrowth.

The Stanford Project on Emerging Companies, a longitudinal study of 200 Silicon Valley startups during the first dot-com boom, found that tech entrepre-

traditional human resource tasks. Only 6.6 percent had the type of formal personnel management seen at typical companies.

Bureaucratic HR is "loathed" by engineers because it adds costs and slows decision-making, the leaders of the study, James N. Baron and Michael T. Hannan, wrote in a paper in California Management Review. □

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| HOSPITAL | 527-4000 |
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| AMBULANCE | 584-5050 |

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| PROF. TAXI | 588-0035 |
| TAXI D.T.S. | 587-2300 |
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May 4 Island Princess

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South Africa: Poachers hit urban area, rhino dies

CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA

Associated Press

DINOKENG GAME RESERVE,

South Africa (AP) — On one

side of a major highway

lies Hammanskraal, a poor

township in South Africa's

most populous province.

On the other side lies a

"big five" park that is home

to the lion, leopard, buffa-

lo, elephant — and rhino,

one of which was killed by

poachers last month in a

challenge to the model of

conserving wildlife near ur-

ban centers.

The 20,000-hectare (50,000-

acre) Dinokeng Game Re-

serve is unusual because,

while it features animals

most associated with the

danger and mystique of

the African wild, it also lies

close to big cities.

There are concerns that

visitors will get out of their

cars and be attacked by

a beast, but it is the wildlife

that is more at risk. In April,

poachers killed a rhino with

a single bullet from a high-

powered rifle and cut off

its horns in the first such in-

cident since the reserve of-

ficially opened in 2011.

The rhino is one of about

300 to be killed so far this

year in South Africa in a

surge of poacher activ-

ity linked to rising demand

for rhino horn in Vietnam

and China, where some

view it as a status symbol

or a cure for serious illness,

despite no evidence that

the horn is an effective

medicine. Many poachers

are poor people who sell

the horn to international

buyers. The price reaches

tens of thousands of dollars

per kilogram (2.2 pounds)

by the time it reaches the

consumer, according to

conservationists.

The rhino kill in the Dino-

keng park is a stark test for

a conservation area situ-

ated next to communities

where many people strug-

gle to make a living. While

no arrests have yet been

made, the park's general

manager, Piet Venter, said

it is difficult to protect the

animals in the fenced-off

reserve because of pov-

erty in the area.

"You can't blame the

community for trying to

snare animals," he said,

referring to a "bush meat

industry" in which poach-

ers kill wildlife to stock com-

munity butcheries.

A drive on stretches of

the park's dirt roads, lined

with scrub and occasion-

al herds of antelope and

other animals, can make

visitors momentarily for-

get they are in the greater

metropolitan area of Pre-

toria, South Africa's capi-

tal, and just over an hour

from the main international

airport in Johannesburg.

There is also a casino in

the area. Most of the park

lies in Gauteng province,

which has more than 12

million people, amounting

to nearly one-quarter of

the South African popula-

tion.

Passengers on a boat cruise

on a Dinokeng lake can



In this photo taken Friday April 18, 2014 and supplied by the Dinokeng Game Reserve, the corpse of a poached rhino lays on the ground in the Game Reserve alongside Hammanskraal, South Africa. Associated Press

see hippos pop their heads

above the surface, as well

as egrets, cormorants and

other birds perched on

tree branches or flitting

across the water. And yet,

in some parts of the park,

highway traffic is audible

and the lights of neighbor-

ing Hammanskraal are visi-

ble at night. The township is

a shopping spot and trans-

port hub. A month ago,

people demanding better

bus service and lower fares

clashed with police who

fired tear gas and rubber

bullets at them, according

to South African media.

This week, the reserve

management said it was

trying to resolve a new

problem — the occupa-

tion by squatters of some

of its land.

One Hammanskraal settle-

ment, named after slain

anti-apartheid activist

Steve Biko, consists of gov-

ernment-supplied housing

as well as metal shacks

and sits at the entrance

to the wildlife park. Tour

guides bring some park

visitors to the settlement's

Freedom Walls restaurant,

where they sample tradi-

tional food such as pap,

or porridge, and atchar, a

mango-based condiment.

Police are investigating

the death of the 8-year-

old female rhino, whose

carcass was found on April

18. Poachers were not

deterred by signs on park

fences warning that rhino

horns had been injected

with a poison that would

harm anyone who ingests

the horn in a powder form.

The park is ramping up

armed foot patrols and

suspicious vehicles will be

searched.

Challenges include limited

funding and a dearth of

rangers. Two public roads

run through the reserve,

making it difficult to mon-

itor traffic. Dinokeng is still

struggling to educate peo-

ple not to get out of cars

in an area where wildlife

roams. Speed bumps slow

down vehicles, but a rhino

was among a number of

animals killed on the roads

in past years.

Dinokeng's stakeholders

include provincial authori-

ties, the local community

and private landowners.

Venter, the manager, said

the park has 13 elephants

but he declined to say how

many rhinos there are for

fear that poachers could

use the information.

Venter said he was very

sad to lose the rhino last

month, but he was at least

thankful that it wasn't

pregnant. □

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This March 2, 2014 file photo shows actress Kerry Washington at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

It's a girl for Kerry Washington and husband

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's a girl for Kerry Washington and retired American football player Nnamdi Asomugha. A birth certificate released Friday shows the couple's daughter Isabelle Amarachi Asomugha was born around 5 p.m. on April 21 in Los Angeles. The parents haven't announced the baby publicly. Washington's publicist Amanda Silverman said no statement was available. Washington is the Emmy-nominated star of the ABC series "Scandal." The show's third season was cut short after the 37-year-old actress became pregnant. Asomugha, a former cornerback with the Oakland Raiders, Philadelphia Eagles and San Francisco 49ers, announced his retirement last year. The birth was first reported Friday by celebrity website TMZ. □

Elaine Pagels writing personal book on religion

NEW YORK (AP) — The next book by prize-winning religious scholar Elaine Pagels will be personal. Pagels has an agreement with Ecco for "Why Religion?" in which she draws upon her own life to write about faith. Ecco, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, announced the deal Friday. It has scheduled the book for release in 2018. The 71-year-old Pagels won the National Book Award and National Book Critics Circle prize for "The Gnostic Gospels," a best-seller published in 1979 and ranked by the Modern Library as among the hundred best nonfiction books of the 20th century. She is also known for "Adam, Eve and the Serpent" and "Beyond Belief." □

Jack Bauer's back to save the day in '24' revival



This image released by Fox shows Kiefer Sutherland in a scene from "24: Live Another Day," premiering Monday, May 5 at 8 p.m. EDT on Fox.

Associated Press

FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Jack's back.

A counterterrorism agent forced to go rogue, Jack Bauer had been lying low since 2010. He's been off the grid and off-screen since the final cycle of "24." For eight seasons of this Fox thriller, the indomitable Bauer repeatedly saved the country from innumerable disasters (or tried to) at grave cost to himself. But far from being showered in the thanks of a grateful nation, he was branded and re-branded a most-wanted villain for his service. He had no choice but to go on the lam.

Viewers — like his fictional pursuers on "24" — might reasonably have given up on ever seeing Jack again. But on "24: Live Another Day," he is nabbed by the CIA shortly after 11 a.m., London time, as this real-time, sequential drama erupts with the first of a dozen episodes that will carry the saga to a breathless resolution 12 hours later in the same hectic day.

Noted: Past "24" seasons ran 24 hours, hence the series' title. So "12" might have been a more appropriate, if lame-sounding,

name for this miniseries, which premieres Monday at 8 p.m. EDT with two episodes, spanning the period from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A few possible spoilers follow.

Returning as the intrepid, long-suffering Bauer is Kiefer Sutherland, whose far more upbeat post-"24" drama, "Touch," was axed a year ago after just two seasons. Also back is Mary Lynn Raskub as marvelously mopey Chloe O'Brian. Bauer's former Counter-Terrorism Unit running buddy has had her share of tribulations of late, including torture and charges of treason as well as a severe Goth makeover.

And also back, remarkably, is Kim Raver, who, as Bauer's former heartthrob Audrey, was last seen in the conclusion of Season 6 in a coma from which she was not expected to emerge. But there is no happy reunion in store for Jack. It's quite the opposite, even though he — ever the trickster — deliberately contrives to be captured by authorities.

What's Jack's game? He's gotten wind that James Heller, previously U.S. defense secretary but now the nation's chief execu-

tive (played by the returning William Devane), is targeted for assassination while in London for a summit meeting.

Still the driven do-gooder, Jack is hellbent on foiling this plan. But it requires him to resurface and tangle with CIA officials (played by Benjamin Bratt and Yvonne Strahovski) as well as President Heller's chief of staff (Tate Donovan), who is now married to — wait for it — Audrey, after having seen her through her miraculous recovery.

"Jack Bauer is a traitor and a psychopath," he seethes, proposing that it's Bauer who is out to kill the president.

Such is the plight of Jack Bauer. He's so heroic, yet so misunderstood — except by "24" fans who will surely welcome him back with open arms. After all, he has served us, too. He saw us through a decade of high alert.

It's worth recalling that "24" premiered in fall 2001. It was hatched as scripted drama's answer to the red-hot new reality genre spawned by "Survivor." Then, just weeks before "24" was set to be launched, everything changed. □

Homer goes hard-body in 'Simpsons' Lego episode

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Episode No. 550 of Fox's "The Simpsons" was put together Lego brick by brick, in a CGI manner of speaking. Using computer-generated special effects, the town of Springfield and its residents have been reimagined in the style of the famed plastic toys for Sunday's episode, "Brick Like Me" (8 p.m. EDT).

It's a tart title — a play on "Black Like Me," the book — for a sweet episode, one that combines CGI and the show's traditional animation to shake up Homer Simpson's world and teach him a lesson about parenting. Homer (voiced by Dan Castellaneta) has morphed from his familiar pudgy self into a real hard-body: a square-shaped, bullet-headed Lego man. He's still yellow, as are wife Marge (Julie Kavner), the kids and the rest of the town's inhabitants, but all easily and painlessly disassembled.

With the box-office hit "The Lego Movie," a newly launched "Simpsons" Lego toy line and now the TV episode, it could be suspected that much corporate



This image released by FOX shows characters from the animated series, "The Simpsons," from left, Homer, Marge, Lisa and Bart, as Lego figures in episode No. 550, titled, "Brick Like Me," airing Sunday. Using computer-generated special effects, the town of Springfield and its residents have been reimagined in the style of the famed plastic toys.

Associated Press

plotting was involved.

"People are probably looking at it going, 'All this fits and it's a plan.' No, it was just the love of Lego" and creativity, not cross-promotion, Al Jean, "The Simpsons" longtime executive producer, told a teleconference this week.

"Yes, so all the cross-promotion was just gravy, delicious gravy," joked Matt Selman, an executive pro-

ducer and co-writer, with Brian Kelley, of the Lego episode.

Lego was consulted, he said, and a Fox spokeswoman said the toy maker paid for promotional consideration.

In an interview, Selman said he and Kelley started working on the plot in 2012, before they were aware of the movie or the spinoff toys.

"We had to have a story worthy of this much technical ambition. If it didn't have heart, character and feeling, all the jokes about someone taking off their head and kicking it into the distance weren't going to play," he said.

Unlike "The Lego Movie," which employed stop-action animation along with CGI, "The Simpsons" stayed away from three-

dimensional figures that would have increased the difficulty of production, Selman said. Its smooth-faced CGI characters also vary from the sculpted ones that are part of Lego's "Simpsons" toy line.

The "old-school" cylinder heads are classic Lego and were right for the show and the story, Selman said. It's an especially family friendly one, he said, since the toy connection is expected to draw a number of younger viewers and there was Lego's image to consider. "We had to tune down Homer and Marge's amour" in a scene between the characters' Lego incarnations, he said. A number of other familiar faces make appearances, including the Rev. Lovejoy (Harry Shearer), seen preaching the Lego version of the Bible's creation story. Selman regrets a pair of characters who didn't enter toy land.

"I wish we could have done a Lego Itchy and Scratchy," he said in the phone conference, then tossed it to his colleague. "Al, you think they'll let us do another one?"

"Sure, let me just hold a bake sale," Jean replied. □

Producer on Jackson album: Everyone did a good job

MESFIN FEKADU

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — When Michael Jackson's record label released his first posthumous album in 2010, a year after the King of Pop's sudden death, producer Rodney "Darkchild" Jerkins was asked to work on the project. He declined.

"I was asked to be on that album and to produce like five songs, but I turned it down," he said. "I just felt like it wasn't time."

Years later, the hitmaker for Destiny's Child and Whitney Houston — who worked heavily on Jackson's 2001 comeback album, "Invincible" — says he now feels comfortable producing Jackson's music again. He produced the title track from the upcoming album, "Xscape," out May 13.

"For me it wasn't about the label, it wasn't about the estate's approval; it wasn't about all of that," he said. "I had a personal relationship with Michael, (so) it was about, 'What would he want from this? What would he want it to sound like now?'" "Xscape" was executive produced by Timbaland and includes songs Jackson recorded in the 1980s and 1990s. Some of the tracks are taken from early recording sessions for successful albums such as "Bad" and "Dangerous."

The first single, "Love Never Felt So Good," was written with Paul Anka and premiered at the iHeartRadio Music Awards on Thursday night when Usher danced to the song. A bonus version of the track features Justin Timberlake.

Jerkins said he and Jack-



Nov. 7, 2001 file photo, Michael Jackson waves to crowds gathered to see him at his first ever in-store appearance to celebrate his new album "Invincible" in New York's Times Square.

Associated Press

son originally started work on the song "Xscape" in 1999 when they recorded the "Invincible" album. He

revisited the track in 2003 and retouched it this year for the new eight-track album.

"Even when Michael was alive, we never stopped working on the song 'Xscape,'" he said. "It was one of those songs where he specifically said to me, 'It has to see the light of day one day.'"

Jerkins said he visited Jackson in 2007 in Ireland where they were "vibing out," but didn't focus on creating music exclusively.

"And I then I spoke to him — I would say 2008, 2009, something like that — and he was telling me, 'I'm getting ready to do another album. You gotta get to work. Start working on ideas,'" he recalled. "And then he passed away."

Jerkins, who has produced hits for Jennifer Lopez, Beyonce and Brandy, is working on new music with Rihanna and Ariana Grande. □

Buffett Bites Back



JOE NOCERA

© 2014 New York Times

The first Saturday in May is always a great day for Warren Buffett. That's the day his conglomerate, Berkshire Hathaway, holds its annual meeting in Omaha.

Thousands of shareholders descend on the city - there were more than 30,000 last year - where they eat ice cream at Dairy Queen (one of Berkshire Hathaway's holdings), shop at Borsheims (the Omaha jewelry store Berkshire has long owned) and dine at Gorat's and Piccolo's (Buffett's favorite restaurants). This year, according to his annual letter, the festivities will also include a newspaper-tossing contest, and a blindfolded chess player and an American table-tennis champion who will take on all comers. Mostly, though, investors come to hear Buffett and his longtime partner, Charlie Munger, answer questions, which they'll do for six hours Saturday. Some of the questions will be about Berkshire Hathaway. Others will give Buffett a chance to talk about the buy-and-hold stock strategy that has made him, at 83, the second-wealthiest American behind Bill Gates. Buffett has long called his annual meeting "Woodstock for capitalists." But it's really more like a revival meeting. I wonder, though, if anyone attending this year's meeting is going to ask him about his decision to abstain from voting Berkshire Hathaway's 400 million shares against Coca-Cola's equity compensation plan, even though Buffett felt the plan was, in his own words, "excessive." I am returning to this subject because, on Monday, following widespread criticism of his decision, Buffett gave a remarkable interview to Fortune magazine's Stephen Gandel, an interview that was strikingly different in tone from his remarks of last week. When he first acknowledged to Becky Quick of CNBC that he had declined to vote against the compensation plan, he seemed flustered and mildly embarrassed. His reason, he said, was that he loved Coke and its management and he didn't want to do anything that might be viewed as disparaging them. Given Buffett's previous statements about the importance of institutional investors speaking out against excessive executive compensation, I thought

he had been both cowardly and hypocritical. So did a lot of other people. But having had a few days to lick his wounds, Buffett went on the offensive with Fortune. In abstaining, he told Gandel, he was taking a stand. "That's a very loud voice coming from Berkshire," he said. "It obviously means we don't approve of the plan." He added that the Coke board was simply acting the way all boards do: "The other guys are doing it so we will do the same thing. The idea of fundamentally re-examining the whole thing doesn't occur to these companies." Nor was Buffett willing to try to bring about such a re-examination, even though he was in the perfect position to do so in this case.

In fact, Buffett had it right when he spoke to Quick: He should be embarrassed. It's actually worse than I had realized. My original assumption was that Buffett didn't want to offend his fellow board members, especially those on the compensation committee, who had vouched for the equity plan. But Buffett left the board in 2006. (His son Howard joined the Coke board four years later.) As the company's largest shareholder, he should have felt duty-bound to vote against the plan - or at least to let it be known beforehand how he was going to vote.

Indeed, when I asked David Winters of Wintergreen Advisers, who had led the charge against the Coke equity plan, what he thought about Buffett's latest statement, he told me that if Buffett had announced a month before the Coke annual meeting that he was going to abstain, it might well have been a factor. "If people had known that Buffett had agreed with us that the plan was excessive, the outcome of the vote might have been significantly different," he said. As it was, 83 percent of the shares voted favored the plan, a number Coke has been trumpeting ever since the annual meeting. (Coke added in a statement: "The Coca-Cola Company Board respects Mr. Buffett's philosophical stance on equity-based compensation. As our largest shareholder, Mr. Buffett is an avid supporter of the Company and its management team, and has been a wonderful counselor through the years." In other words, no harm, no foul.) In his annual letter to shareholders this year, Buffett gives a lovely dissertation on buy-and-hold "value" investing. He explains to readers that they shouldn't be distracted by the white noise of the market, and that while he and Munger may make stock-picking mistakes, they won't be the kind of disasters "that occur, for example, when a long-rising market induces purchases that are based on anticipated price behavior and a desire to be where the action is."

When it comes to buying stocks, everybody should follow Warren Buffett's example. But, on the subject of executive compensation, do what he says, not what he does. □



Job Crushing or Life Saving?



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

© 2014 New York Times

Speaker John Boehner blasts "job-crushing regulations." The House majority leader, Eric Cantor, prefers a variant: "job-destroying regulations." That mantra has been repeated so much that we might think that all regulations do is crush, destroy, annihilate, maim, gut, crucify and extirpate jobs.

Yet think about Amber Rose, a 16-year-old girl in Maryland who was driving a General Motors car (way too fast, while drunk) with an ignition switch the company knew was faulty. She struck a tree and, because the ignition fault had switched off the electrical system, the air bag didn't deploy. Amber was killed.

While GM says that 13 people died in connection with the faulty switches, a consumer group called the Center for Auto Safety says it has found 303 such deaths. GM has said it knew about this problem for a decade. It even devised a fix but chose not to implement it because of the cost, which would have been about 57 cents per car, according to congressional hearings. As an internal GM memorandum put it, there was no "business case" for preventing crashes.

And that's why we need regulation: Company executives can't be trusted to police themselves. They sometimes blindly pursue a "business case" as it kills us.

I'm sure those GM executives were good people who helped out their neighbors and donated to churches and charities, but they also had a moral blind spot. That has been the history of business. Companies have achieved staggering productivity and vastly raised global living standards, but they have also repeatedly privatized profits while socializing risks. In this century, it is estimated that 1 billion people will die prematurely because of tobacco use, according to "Lethal but Legal," a smart new book about corporate irresponsibility by Nicholas Freudenberg, a professor of public health at City University of New York.

Put that 1 billion in perspective. That's more than five times as many people as died in all wars of the 20th century.

Freudenberg notes that smoking grew in part because of deliberate manipulation of the public by tobacco companies. For example, tobacco executives realized that they could expand their profits if more women smoked, so they engineered a feminist-sounding campaign to get females hooked: "Women! Light another torch of freedom! Fight another sex taboo!"

In effect, tobacco companies manufactured not only cigarettes but also demand.

In recent years, with fewer cigarettes being sold in the United States, tobacco companies seem to have been targeting women and young people abroad. Philip Morris acquired an Indonesia tobacco company in 2005 and began marketing cigarettes as young, cool and trendy. This has been very successful, in part because Indonesia does not much regulate tobacco and in practice even children can easily buy cigarettes.

One 2-year-old Indonesian boy, Ardi Rizal, appeared in news reports a few years ago, puffing away and going through 40 cigarettes a day. His mom said he was addicted. Embarrassed at the reporting, officials intervened

and helped Ardi quit, but plenty of other Indonesian children still smoke.

All this makes Indonesia a lucrative market for Philip Morris. Meanwhile, 400,000 Indonesians die annually from tobacco-related illness.

In the United States, industry is turning to its own new market: electronic cigarettes. These were originally conceived of as a way to help people quit smoking. As a result, they have largely avoided regulation, and even children can often buy them in the United States. But companies seem to be marketing e-cigarettes to young people in hopes of establishing new addicts. E-cigarettes are sold as e-hookahs, hookah pens or vape pipes, and they often have flavors like bubble gum, blueberry, grape apple or even strawberry margarita.

Overall, sales in 2013 were double those of 2012. As my Times colleague Matt Richtel has reported in his terrific coverage of the issue, the liquids in e-cigarettes are powerful neurotoxins, and poisoning cases tripled in 2013 from a year earlier.

The Food and Drug Administration recently proposed rules for e-cigarettes, including a ban on sales to children. Is that "job-crushing regulation"?

Critics are right that regulators are sometimes too zealous and bureaucratic. Sometimes regulations do curb profits and undermine job creation.

But, on the whole, we need regulations to guard against human nature. The truth is that bad things usually aren't done by evil people but rather by essentially decent people who go to work and get so wrapped up in the "business case" that they sometimes lose their moral compass.

So the next time you hear people denouncing "job-killing regulations," remember that if there had been tighter regulations, smokers might not be dying every 6 seconds, and Amber Rose might still be alive. Wouldn't that be worth 57 cents? □

Clinging to the Amazing Mets in a Yankees Tide

TIM ROHAN

© 2014 New York Times

NEW YORK - Michael Zampino leaned in and lowered his voice to a whisper, so that maybe his customers would not hear him. There was a long line forming outside his shop, the Lemon Ice King of Corona, on Tuesday afternoon, and he did not want to offend anyone.

"I'm a Yankees fan," he said softly and with a sheepish grin.

Citi Field is in walking distance of the shop. After games, Mets fans flock there for the Italian ice. This neighborhood, Corona, of all places, seems as if it would be a haven for Mets fans. But evidently, Yankees fans have invaded.

sive parking lot. And on the fourth, beyond 126th Street, is a line of maybe a dozen rundown body shops.

Beyond that, to the west is Corona, to the east is Flushing, and to the north is Flushing Bay. Corona is a mostly Hispanic working-class area, with about 22 percent of residents living below the poverty line. Flushing is mostly Asian now, and is also working-class. Julissa Ferreras, the area's City Council member, noted that many people there did not own computers, let alone Facebook accounts. She sounded weary talking about the prevalence of Yankees fans in the area, as if it were expected.

"The Mets should be more

about 22 years ago. On a recent afternoon, told about Facebook's data, Zampino turned to Barbaccia and said, "He wants to know why people around here are Yankee fans."

"Why? They're the Yankees," Barbaccia said, grinning.

Zampino explained: "The Yankees have been winning. It's the winning, 100 percent. If you asked that question in the '80s, if Facebook was around, it'd be all Mets."

Frank Messina, who published a book of poems about the Mets, said it took courage to publicly declare one's allegiance to the Mets with a "like" on Facebook

here in the 1980s, long before he worked as the Mets' general manager from 2004 to 2010. He was born in the Dominican Republic, but he moved to Corona, Queens, when he was 8 and stayed until he was 31. He said baseball was big in the neighborhood then, and mostly everyone was a Mets fan.

"I was a little bit of a front-runner," he said, chuckling. "I liked the Mets when they won."

Naturally, Minaya loved Tom Seaver. He said the Mets had lost a lot of fair-weather fans when they traded Seaver in 1977.

The neighborhood has changed a lot since then, he said. People seem to

bigger Mets flags, a jersey signed by the 2000 team, a ball signed by Ralph Brancica and Bobby Thomson, and photographs - lots and lots of photographs.

David Wright had stopped by. So had the Wilpons, and Brian Cashman, and Minaya, he's a regular. Bobby Valentine once tried to go into the kitchen and cook the sauce.

Irene and Marie DeBenedictis laughed at the memories.

Their grandparents started the deli more than 80 years ago. By word of mouth, Mama's became a Mets staple. Now they cater the food in the visitors' clubhouse and have a stand in Citi Field.

During their hiring process, they ask: Yankees or Mets? "Most of them say they're not into baseball," Marie said.

"Those are the smart ones," Irene said. "They want a job."

When they were told that the Facebook data showed Mets fans to be a distinct minority in the area, Irene's eyes widened, as if she had seen a ghost.

"It's true," Marie said sadly. "I think there are a lot more Yankee fans. We allow them in, but we give them a hard time. It's very hard to be a Met fan. Especially around the World Series - that's the worst. Yankee fans are very mean. Well, some are."

The Yankees fan invasion has spread to Flushing, too. In the ZIP code 11355, to the east, according to the data, Yankees fans also outnumber Mets fans by 2 to 1, according to the data. On Tuesday night, from Main Street, you could see Citi Field lit up in the distance. And amid all the Asian restaurants, shops and boutiques, if you ducked down 41st Avenue, there was a beacon in a night - a neon Mets sign in the window of Kelly's Pub. Stephen Walsh, a firefighter, sat alone at the end of the bar, watching the Mets game, sipping on a Guinness. He has spent most of his life in Flushing, and been around long enough to see the neighborhood become a thriving Chinatown.

This bar's appeal was simple: Whoever was sitting next to him was likely to be a Mets fan. Outside, he could not tell anymore. Maybe Facebook was right. Maybe there were more Yankees fans. He did not seem to care.

"As Mets fans, we're used to being losers," he said. □



Marie DeBenedictis in Leo's Latticini, also known as Mama's of Corona, the deli that she owns with her sister, where Yankees fans are allowed in, she said, "but we give them a hard time," in New York. Facebook data shows that the Yankees are favored over the Mets throughout New York, even in neighborhoods close to Citi Field.

(Andrew White/The New York Times)

According to data from Facebook, across New York City, in every single ZIP code, the Yankees have drawn more "likes" than the Mets. Even along the blocks closest to Citi Field, in the ZIP code 11368, which includes Corona and Zampino's Italian ice shop, Yankees fans outnumber Mets fans by more than 2 to 1, the data shows.

Of course, there are no real neighborhoods immediately around Citi Field. Like a peninsula, it is surrounded on three sides by an expan-

upset" than she would be, she said.

Zampino grew up in Corona, too, a few blocks away from the shop. His father was a Yankees fan before the Mets existed, and had taught him to love the Yankees, the tradition, all the winning. Zampino started working at the shop when he was 16. Peter Benfaremo, the owner, was like a second father to him.

Zampino and his partner, Vinnie Barbaccia, who's also a Yankees fan, bought the shop from Benfaremo

"Being a Mets fan requires admitting to a lot of self-inflicted turmoil," he said. And if most people posted only positive or self-assuring things on social media, he figured it made sense that more people "liked" the Yankees.

"But what if there was a button that said you 'disliked' the Yankees?" he said. "There would probably be more people that said they 'dislike' the Yankees than 'like.' With the Mets, people wouldn't care."

Omar Minaya lived around

prefer soccer.

Minaya still visits the neighborhood about three times a month. Go to Leo's Latticini on 104th Street, he said. That's Corona. That is where the real Mets fans are, he said.

From the outside, the deli, also called Mama's of Corona, looked like the last bastion of Mets fans in the neighborhood. In the windows, there were Mets posters, flags, stuffed dolls and pompoms, making one giant blue and orange collage. Inside, there were